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# The Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry Chronicle

1929

An Annual Record of the First and Second Battalions
Formerly the 43rd and 52nd Light Infantry

Compiled and Edited
by
THE CHRONICLE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

VOLUME XXXVII
January to December, 1929

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# THE
# OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
# LIGHT INFANTRY CALENDAR
# 1929

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*When no Regiment or Battalion is named, the event recorded refers to both the 43rd and 52nd.*

*Thick type denotes Honours on the Colours or in the Army List.*

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## JANUARY.

6 S — 1827, New Colours presented to the 43rd by Mrs. Haverfield at Gibraltar.

10 Th — 1803, Horse Guards authority issued for 1st Bn. 52nd being called Light Infantry, the 2nd Bn. to be separated and to become 96th Regiment of Foot.

16 W — 1809, Battle of **Corunna**; death of Sir John Moore.

24 Th — 1889, 43rd reviewed by Queen Victoria at Osborne.

## FEBRUARY.

1 F — 1833, 52nd relieved 43rd at Beggar's Bush Barracks, Dublin.
1908, H.M. King Charles I, King of Portugal, assassinated at Lisbon.

5 W — 1762, 43rd at first capture of **Martinique**.

15 F — 1916, Provisional Battalion (of 1st Bn.) 400 strong, joined the force for the relief of **Kut** at Wadi.

27 W — 1814, Battle of **Orthes**.
1900, 1st Bn. present at the surrender of Cronje and 4,072 Boers at **Paardeberg** after nine days' investment.

## MARCH.

5 Tu — 1791, Commencement of the siege of Bangalore, 52nd present.

13 W — 1900, 1st Bn. took part in the capture of Bloemfontein.

21 Th — 1918, Battle of **St. Quentin**; great German offensive in France commenced, 2/4th and 5th Bns. heavily engaged.

27 W — 1815, 1st Bn. 52nd left Plymouth for the Waterloo campaign.

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## APRIL.

2 Tu — 1811, The Light Division encamped near Sabugal.

9 Tu — 1917, first Battle of the **Scarpe**; 5th Bn. heavily engaged.
1918, Battle of the **Lys** began; 2/4th Bn. present.

18 Th — 1775, 52nd embarked at Boston for attack on Concord, N. America.
1918, Battle of **Bethune**; 2/4th present.

28 S — 1917, 2nd Bn. at Battle of **Arleux**; 2/4th Bn. C.S.M. E. Brooks gained the V.C. at Fayet (France).

## MAY.

5 S — 1811, Battle of **Fuentes d'Onor.**

8 W — 1801, Major-General John Moore appointed Colonel of the 52nd.
1917, Battle of **Doiran**; 7th Bn. (casualties 15 officers and 456 men) and 8th Bn. both present.

24 S — 1809, 1st Bn. 43rd, 52nd, and 95th embarked for Portugal.

30 Th — 1865, Death of Sir J. Shaw Kennedy, K.C.B. (43rd).

## JUNE.

5 W — 1835, 43rd left England for New Brunswick, N. America.

15 S — 1804, 43rd joined Sir John Moore's Brigade at Shorncliffe.
1918, Battle of the **Piave.** 1/4th and 1/1st Bucks Bns. engaged on the Asiago Plateau in meeting great Austrian offensive.

18 Tu — 1815, Battle of **Waterloo**; 52nd under command of Sir J. Colborne, led the decisive attack on the French Imperial Guard.

21 F — 1813, Battle of **Vittoria.**
1864, engagement of Te Ranga. Captain Smith, 43rd, gained the V.C.



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## JULY.

1 M — 1881, 43rd and 52nd formed into the Oxfordshire Light Infantry.
1916, Battle of **Albert**; 1/4th and 1st Bucks Bns. present.

5 F — 1815, Capitulation of Paris.

22 M — 1812, Battle of **Salamanca**.
1915, 6th Bn. arrived at Boulogne from England.

30 Tu — 1915, action of **Hooge**; 5th Bn. present.
1916, 2nd Bn. took part in attack on Guillemont (**Deville Wood**).

## AUGUST.

4 S — 1914, Great Britain declared War on Germany. Mobilization ordered.

16 F — 1917, 2nd Battle of **Langemarck**; 1/4th, 1/st Bucks, and 6th Bns. actively engaged; 5th Bn. also present.

21 W — 1808, Battle of **Vimiera**.

31 S — 1782, Orders issued connecting the 52nd with the County of Oxfordshire and the 43rd with Monmouthshire.
1813. Storming of San Sebastian.

## SEPTEMBER.

1 S — 1807, Danish Expedition, 2nd Bn. 52nd engaged in the Siege of Copenhagen.

12 Th — 1914, Battle of the **Aisne** commenced. 2nd Bn. present.
1918, Cpl. A. Wilcox, 2/4th Bn., near Laventie, gained the V.C.
Battle of **Havrincourt**; 2nd Bn. engaged.

16 M — 1916, Battle of **Flers-Courcelette**; 5th Bn. present at Guedecourt.

28 S — 1915, Battle of **Kut**. 1st Bn. engaged.

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## OCTOBER.

4 F — 1902, 1st Bn. arrived in England from the Boer War.

8 Tu — 1918, Battle of **Cambrai**; 2nd Bn. in support holding Boyelles sur L'Escant.

16 W — 1908, the Title of the Regiment changed to the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

21 M — 1914, Battle of **Langemarck**; 2nd Bn. heavily engaged.

## NOVEMBER.

1 F — 1918, Armistice with Turkey declared.
Battle of **Vittorio Veneto**; 1/4th and 1/1st Bucks Bns. actively engaged
Battle of **Valenciennes**; 2/4th Bn. present.

11 M — 1914, 2nd Bn. attacked and routed the Prussian Guard at Battle of **Nonne Bosschen.**
1918, **Armistice** with Germany declared.

18 M — 1810, the Light Division at Valle (Portugal) went into Winter Quarters opposite the French Army under Marshal Massena.

30 S — **St. Andrew's Day.**
1917, Battle of **Cambrai.** 2nd Bn. engaged in repelling German counter attacks.

## DECEMBER.

7 S — 1875, 43rd furnished a Guard of Honour to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales during his tour in Southern India.

10 Tu — 1813, Battle of the **Nive.**

17 Tu — 1851, 43rd landed in South Africa for the Kaffir War.

25 W — **Christmas Day.**
1808. Both Bns. 43rd and 52nd as part of Sir John Moore's rearguard from Sahagun (Spain) started on the retreat to Corunna.

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# THE ARMY LIST, DECEMBER, 1929.

## THE OXFORDSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY. (43)

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The United Red and White Rose.

"Quebec, 1759," "Martinique, 1762," "Havannah," "Mysore," "Hindoostan," "Martinique, 1794," "Vimiera," "Corunna," "Busaco," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Orthes," "Toulouse," "Peninsula," "Waterloo," "South Africa, 1851-2-3," "Delhi, 1857," "New Zealand," "Relief of Kimberley," "Paardeberg," "South Africa, 1900-02."

*The Great War*—17 *Battalions*.—"Mons," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914," "Ypres, 1914, '17," "Langemarck, 1914, '17," "Gheluvelt," "Nonne Bosschen," "Aubers," "Festubert, 1915," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Mount Sorrel," "Somme, 1916, '18," "Albert, 1916, '18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Guillemont," "Flers-Courcelette," "Morval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "Bapaume, 1917, '18," "Arras, 1917," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "Arleux," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917, '18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Lys," "Hazebrouck," "Béthune," "Hindenburg Line," "Havrincourt," "Canal du Nord," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "France and Flanders, 1914-18." "Piave," "Vittorio Veneto," "Italy, 1917-18." "Doiran, 1917, '18," "Macedonia, 1915 18." "Kut al Amara, 1915," "Ctesiphon," "Defence of Kut al Amara," "Khan Baghdadi," "Mesopotamia, 1914–18." "Archangel, 1919."

*Agents*—Lloyds Bank, Ltd., Cox's & King's Branch.
*Regimental Journal*—The Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry Journal, Cowley Barracks, Oxford
*Regimental Association*—Cowley Barracks, Oxford.

### Regular and Militia Battalions.

*Uniform*—Scarlet. *Facings*—White.

1st Bn. (43rd Foot) .. .. .. .. *Parkhurst.*
2nd ,, (52nd ,, ) .. .. .. .. *Maymyo.*
Depot .. .. .. .. *Oxford.*

3rd Bn. (Oxford Mil.) .. .. .. *Oxford.*
Record and Pay Office .. .. *Warwick.*

### Territorial Army Battalions.

4th Bn. .. .. .. *St. Cross Road, Oxford.*

The Buckinghamshire Bn. .. *Drill Hall, Market Square, Aylesbury.*

### Allied Battalion of Australian Infantry.

43rd Battalion .. .. .. .. *Southwark, S. Australia.*

### Allied Regiment of New Zealand Military Forces.

The Hauraki Regiment .. .. .. *Morrinsville.*

*Colonel* .. Hanbury-Williams, Maj.-Gen. *Sir* John, *G.C.V.O., K.C.B., C.M.G.*, ret. pay .. .. .. 6/4/18
*Officer Commanding Depot* .. Powell, Maj. J. J., Oxf. & Bucks. L.I., *f.s.* .. .. .. .. .. 15/2/27

### 1st and 2nd Battalions (Regular).

*Lt.-Colonels* (2).

Day, M. F., *M.C., p.s.c.* (1) 31/10/27
1/1/19
Sanderson, A. E., *D.S.O.* (2) 17/12/28

*Majors* (8).

Whittall, G. E., *M.C.*, (2) *s.* 21/12/23
3/6/17
Portal, J. L., *D.S.O.* (1) 15/2/24
Tolson, W. G., *M.C.*, (2) 15/2/24
Paget, B. C. T., *D.S.O., M.C., p.s.c., s.* (1) 15/2/24
*bt. lt.-col.* 1/7/25
Powell, J. J., *f.s.* (1) *d.* 2/3/24
Paris, A. C. M., *M.C., p.s.c.* 20/7/26
(2) 1/1/18
Plowden, G. F., *M.C.* (1) 16/7/27
Brett, R. J., *D.S.O., p.s.c., s.* 17/12/28
1/1/19

*Captains* (14).

*Horan, K.* (2) Adjt. 14/12/15
*Withington, T. E.* A.F.C. [L.]
(*Instr. Ecole Spéciale Militaire, St. Cyr.* 30/7/16

### 1st and 2nd Battalions—*contd.*

*Captains*—contd.

Whitfeld, E. H., *M.C.* (2) 1/1/17
Bailie, C. W. H. (1) 1/1/17
Meade, J. W. (1) 1/1/17
Naylor, G., *M.C.* (2) 1/1/17
*Barnard, W. L., t.* 2/2/21
Smyth, H. E. F., *M.C.* (1) 5/3/21
Baddeley, E. L. O. (2) 23/3/21
*Stevens, C. G. B., s.* 9/4/21
Burt-Smith, B., *M.C.* (1) 1/1/23
Horley, C. R., *M.C.* (2) 1/1/23
Packe, E. A., *M.B.E., D.F.C.* (1) 1/1/23
Booth, P. (2) 1/2/23
Eagle, H. S. (1). [2] 14/2/23
Vernon, H. (2) 15/2/23
VC*Toye A. M.*, M.C., e.a. 26/4/24
Eyston, C. J. (2) 4/5/25
Giles, L. W., *M.C.* (1) *d.* 16/5/25
Colvill, D. C., *M.C.* (2) *d.* 16/5/25
*Ames, WR., m.a.* 28/4/26
*Slattery, S. C. P., t.* 9/5/26
Hamilton, A. B (2) 16/7/27

### 1st and 2nd Battalions—*contd.*

*Subalterns* (34).

*Lieutenants.*

*Winterton, T. J. W., s.e.s.* 6/12/18
Wootten, K. S. (2) 5/1/19
Randall, L. R. (1) 5/1/19
*Doyne, R. H.*, (1) *Adjt.* 24/10/19
Thorne, J. (2) 24/10/19
Clarke, W. G. (1) 21/2/20
*Newton-King, D. S.* (L) *s.f.* 20/12/20
Jarvis, J. B. (1) 16/7/21
Kilburn, J. E. D. (2) 16/7/21
Last, M. H. S. (1) *d.* 15/12/21
*Stebbing, J. L.* (L.) *a.m.* 24/12/22
Theobalds, J. A. (2) 14/7/23
Richards, E. C. (2) *d.* 23/12/23
Stephens, M. T. (1) (2) 23/12/23
Graham, J. P. A. G. (*d., Adjt.* 3/11/29) 23/12/23
Conant, R. T. (1) 31/8/24
Branson, C. W. P. (1) 1/2/25
Hughes, G. G. (2) 31/1/26
Wykeham, G. C. H. (2) 31/1/26
Slessor, A. B. (2) 27/8/26

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## The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry—*continued.*

**1st and 2nd Battalions**—*contd.*

*Lieutenants*—contd.

Bayley, K. (2) 27/8/26
Bernard, *Hon.* C. B. A. (1) 27/8/26
Metcalfe, P. F. (2) 30/8/26
Cooke, R. H. (2) 30/8/26
Ward, C. L. C. (2) 29/1/27
Alston-Roberts-West, M. M. (1) 3/9/27
Clifton, C. (1) 3/9/27
Spence, R. H. G. O. (1) 4/11/28
Boileau, P. C. (1) 15/1/29
Palmer, J. D. (2) 4/2/29
*Lathbury, G. W., c.o.* 4/2/29
Rowley, T. G. D. (1) 4/2/29
Edmunds, J. S. R. (1) 30/8/29
Ducat-Hamersley, H. J. C. (1) 30/8/29
Falkiner, L. L. (2) 30/8/29

*2nd Lieutenants.*

Montgomery, H. E. (1) 3/9/27
Harden, J. A. G. R. H. (2) (1) 31/1/29

*Adjutants* (2).

Horan, K. *capt.* (2) 1/3/28
Doyne, R. H. *lt.* (1) 1/5/28

*Quarter-Masters* (3).

Clare, F., *D.C.M., lt.* (2) 30/6/24
Smith, E., *lt.* (1) 9/9/26
Moody, C. T., *lt., d.* 11/2/28

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**3rd Battalion (Militia).**

*Hon. Colonel.*

⚔*Marlborough*, Rt. Hon. the Duke of, K.G., T.D., *t.a.* 14/6/08

*Captain.*

⚔Godsal, P., *M.C.* 7/6/02

**4th Battalion (Territorial).**

St. Cross Road, Oxford.

*Hon. Colonel.*

***North***, The Lord, T.D. 9/1/95

*Lt.-Colonel.*

⚔Long, B., *M.C., T.D., t.a.* 7/11/29

*Major.*

⚔Edmunds, M. W., *t.a.* 7/11/29

**4th Battalion (Territorial)**—*contd.*

*Captains.*

⚔Symonds, R. F., *t.a.* 4/8/17
⚔Smith, S. 2/9/21
⚔Shaw, J. W. (*Lt. Res. of Off.*) 28/1/25
⚔Young, A. R. R. 1/7/29

*Lieutenants.*

Moore, E. D. 10/1/29
Whinney, D. H. 12/3/26
Wakeling, G. R. 15/12/26
Barmby, J. 11/2/27
Good, M. S. 1/7/29

*2nd Lieutenants.*

Lister, C. H. 13/12/26
Tawney, J. J. 15/12/26
Peel, J. F. R. 2/4/27
⚔Shirley, A. W. 7/12/27
Heath, J. 11/2/28
Bradbury, E. C. 13/3/29
Wiggins, M. C. 6/4/29
Wild, C. H. D. 10/7/29

*Adjutant.*

Slattery, S. C. P., Capt. Oxf. & Bucks L.I. 11/6/29

*Quarter-Master.*

⚔Arlett, G. T., *D.C.M., lt.* 1/7/21
*capt.* 1/7/29

[Uniform—*Scarlet.*
Facings—*White.*]

Officer of the General List (T.A.) affiliated.

Dingwall, Lt. W. S. (*St. Edward's Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.*) 25/7/26

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Cadet Units affiliated.
Burford Grammar School C. Corps.
Lord William's Grammar School, Thame, C. Corps.
Henley Grammar School C. Corps.
Banbury County School C. Corps.

**The Buckinghamshire Battalion (Territorial).**

Drill Hall, Market Square, Aylesbury.

*Hon. Colonel.*

*Cottesloe*, The Lord, C.B., V.D., T.D., *t.a.* 2/9/15

*Lt.-Colonel.*

⚔Hall, P. A., *D.S.O., M.C., T.D., t.a.* 2/12/26

*Major.*

⚔Viney, O. V., *t.a.* 2/12/26
31/12/24

*Captains.*

⚔Burnett-Brown, A. D., *M.C.* 1/6/16
⚔*Troutbeck G. L.* (*attd. O.T.C.*) 10/8/16
⚔Parrott, G. F., *M.C.* 10/2/25
Eliot, P. S. 11/2/25
⚔Welbourne, A. C. 9/5/25
⚔Norman, R. E. 10/8/29

**The Buckinghamshire Battalion (Territorial)**—*contd.*

*Lieutenants.*

Sale, R. D. R. 1/6/25
Janes, H. R 24/6/27
Watts, J. S. 11/6/29

*2nd Lieutenants.*

Naylor, G. St. G. 20/10/27
Quantrill, A. F. 21/10/27
Chappell, S. L. 4/4/28
Dadson, G. T. 27/2/29

*Adjutant.*

⚔Barnard, W. L., Capt., Oxf. & Bucks. L.I. 1/1/28

*Quarter-Master.*

Pallett, C. A., *lt.* 1/6/29

[Uniform—*Dark grey.*
Facings—*Scarlet.*]

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Cadet Unit affiliated.
Slough Secondary School Cadets.

**Supplementary Reserve**

Category B.

*Subalterns* (9).

*Lieutenant.*

⚔Southam, E. H. 29/5/25

*2nd Lieutenants.*

Pierce, N. H. 1/1/27
Paine, S. F. 29/1/27
Miles, G. F. W. 29/1/27
Brett, L. E. 13/8/27
Barstow H. S. P. 30/11/27
Adams, G. P. D. 7/3/28
Pepys, C. D. L. 27/10/28
Truman, E. K. 27/11/29

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## OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT

## EXTRA-REGIMENTALLY EMPLOYED

DECEMBER 31, 1929

| RANK. | NAME. | HOW EMPLOYED. |
|---|---|---|
| Major | R. J. Brett, D.S.O., p.s.c. | D.A.A.G. (A.G.'s Dept.), War Office. |
| Captain | T. E. Withington, A.F.C. (L.) | Instructor, Ecole Speciale Militaire, St. Cyr, France. |
| Captain | W. L. Barnard .. .. | Adjt. Buckinghamshire Battalion (Territorial). |
| Captain | C. G. B. Stevens .. | A.D.C. to Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Malta. |
| Captain | A. M. Toye, V.C., M.C. | Senior Military Instructor, Cairo Military School (attached to Egyptian Army). |
| Captain | W. A. R. Ames .. | Officer of a Company of Gentlemen Cadets, Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. |
| Captain | S. C. P. Slattery .. | Adjutant, 4th Bn. (Territorial). |
| Lieut. .. | T. J. W. Winterton .. | Student, Staff College, Camberley. |
| Lieut. .. | D. S. Newton-King (2) | With Sudan Defence Force. |
| Lieut. .. | J. L. Stebbing (L.) .. | Staff Captain, Headquarters, Iraq Levies (administered by Air Ministry). |
| Lieut. .. | G. W. Lathbury .. | With Gold Coast Regiment, West African Frontier Force. |

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## FORMER OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT
## NOW SERVING IN THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

DECEMBER 31, 1929

| RANK. | NAME. | DATE OF RANK. | ON REGL. STRENGTH. | APPOINTMENT. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Air-Vice-Marshal | Sir Robert Brooke-Popham K.C.B., C.M.G. D.S.O., A.F.C., p.s.c. | Jan 1, 1924 | 1898-1919 | Air Officer Commanding Iraq Command, Baghdad. |
| Air-Commodore | F. V. Holt, C.M.G.,D.S.O., q.s. | July 1, 1925 | 1904-1919 | Director of Technical Development (Dept. of Air Ministry for Supply and Research), Air Ministry. |
| Group-Captain | U. J. D. Bourke, C.M.G. | Aug. 8, 1919 | 1903-1919 | General Duties Branch. |
| Flight-Lieut. | H. V. Pendavis, D.S.O. [p.h.] | June 30 1923 | 1915-1919 | Home Aircraft Depot, Inland Area No. 2 Group, Henlow Camp, Bucks. |

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## FORMER OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT ON THE ACTIVE AND HALF-PAY LIST OF THE ARMY

DECEMBER 31, 1929

| RANK. | NAME. | DATE OF RANK. | ON REGL. STRENGTH. | Appointment. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Colonel | L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy, C.B., D.S.O., p.s.c., | Jan 1, 1919 | 1895-1920 | British Military Attaché, Washington, U.S.A. |
| Colonel | J. F. C. Fuller, C.B.E., D.S.O., | Jan. 1, 1919 | 1898-1920 | Commander 14th Infantry Brigade, Catterick. |
| Colonel | F. H. Stapleton, C.M.G., p.s.c. | June 3, 1920 | 1897-1923 | Commander, 10th Infantry Brigade, Shorncliffe. |
| Colonel | W. H. M. Freestun, C.M.G., D.S.O. | June 3, 1921 | 1924-1928 | Half-pay. |
| Colonel | E. R. Clayton, C.M.G., D.S.O., p.s.c. | June 3, 1922 | 1897-1924 | Brigade Commander, 145th (South Midland) Infantry Brigade. |
| Colonel | A. G. Bayley, C.B.E., D.S.O., | June 3, 1922 | 1898-1927 | G.S.O., 1st Grade, Peshawur District, India. |
| Lt.-Col. | A. C. D. Thorne | Feb. 21, 1926 | 1900-1901 | Supern. List I.A. Executive Off. Class I. Cantonments Dept., Government of India. |
| Captain | J. B. Slade-Baker | Jan 13, 1919 | 1915-1920 | Ordnance Officer, 4th Class, R.A.O.C., India. |
| Captain | D. S. Straight, M.C. | Jan 6, 1923 | 1914-1922 | Royal Corps of Signals, Attached Sudan Defence Force. |
| Captain | F. W. S. Jourdain | Feb. 15, 1923 | 1922-1923 | Royal Corps of Signals, Aldershot. |
| Captain | M. F. M. Parkes, M.C. | Feb. 15, 1923 | 1915-1924 | Royal Corps of Signals, Catterick. |
| Captain | R. H. Coad, M.M | Feb. 22, 1925 | 1917-1929 | "Special List" of Qr. Mrs. of Indian Army. With 10th Bn. 5th Mahratta Light Infty. |
| Captain | W. T. Yeoman | Dec. 1, 1925 | 1917-1929 | "Special List" of Qr. Mrs. of Indian Army. With 10th Bn. 7th Rajput Regiment. |

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## FORMER OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT BELONGING TO THE RESERVE OF OFFICERS, DECEMBER 31, 1929

(From the Supplement to the Army List for December 1929, which is corrected up to November 15, 1929, and the "London Gazette" between November 15, 1929 and December 31, 1929, both dates inclusive.)

### (A) GENERAL LIST

*Major-Generals.*

Davies, H. R., C.B.
Fanshawe, Sir R., K.C.B., D.S.O., p.s.c. (l) t.a.

*Colonels (Substantive).*

Frith, C. H., C.B.E.
Higgins, C. G., C.M.G., D.S.O. (Hon. Brig.-Gen.) (l).

### (B) REGIMENTAL LIST.

CLASS I.

*Lieut.-Colonels.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Southey, J. A. .. .. .. .. | July 2, 1919 |
| Bartlett, A. J. N., D.S.O., t.a. .. .. | August 19, 1919 |
| Crosse, R. B., D.S.O. .. .. .. | March 20, 1920 |
| Blewitt, G., D.S.O., M.C., p.s.c. .. | February 8, 1922 |
| Boyle, C. R. C., D.S.O. .. .. .. | August 31, 1922 |
| Stephens, R. .. .. .. .. | June 6, 1928 |

*Majors.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Terry, W. E. C. .. .. .. .. | December 28, 1921 |
| Dent, L. M. R., D.S.O. (s.c.) .. .. | June 1, 1922 |

*Captains.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Addington, R. N., M.C. .. .. .. | May 14, 1920 |
| Barnes, R. M. .. .. .. .. | July 18, 1921 |
| Hartland-Rowe, R. C. .. .. .. | February 14, 1923 |

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*Lieutenants.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Sturges, O. H. M. | December 10, 1916 |
| Whitehead, P. H. R. | October 7, 1917 |
| Blyth, E. K. | April 27, 1918 |
| Northam, N. F. | April 27, 18 |
| Huggard, G. C. | July 4, 1918 |
| Jefferson, K. S. | June 21, 1919 |
| Winsloe, R. D. | October 24, 1919 |
| Muriel, L. F. | October 10, 1920 |
| Plaistowe, F. H. | December 28, 1920 |
| Martyr, A. | January 19, 1922 |
| Woods, H. J. | November 22, 1922 |

CLASS II.

*Lieut.-Colonels.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Foljambe, Hon. G. W. F. S., D.S.O. | February 11, 1919 |
| Nisbet, H. C. | March 12, 1919 |
| Benson, C. B., D.S.O. (L.) | May 5, 1919 |
| Pollock, J. A., D.S.O. | January 10, 1920 |
| Weatherby, J. T., D.S.O., p.s.c. | December 18, 1920 |
| Ballard, J. A. (Bt.-Col.) 4 Bn. t.a. | January 14, 1921 |
| Brooke, N. P., D.S.O. (L.) | May 30, 1925 |

*Majors.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Morland, W. E. T., D.S.O., M.C. | January 18, 1917 |
| Sewell, D. A. D., O.B.E., c.o. | August 29, 1922 |
| Wyld, J. W. G., D.S.O., M.C. (s.c.) | February 27, 1924 |

*Captains.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Mundey, S. C. B. | June 10, 1915 |
| Titherington, G. W. (Bt.-Maj.) | March 2, 1916 |
| Field, G., M.C. | September 21, 1917 |
| Wooding, W. W. | January 1, 1917 |
| Milne, F. D. R., M.C. | January 26, 1917 |
| Chippindale, F. W. | February 1, 1917 |
| McEnroy, F., D.S.O., M.C. | March 11, 1917 |
| Cumberlege, G. F. J., D.S.O., M.C. | October 3, 1917 |
| Crawford, C. B. | December 1, 1918 |
| McEvoy, E. | August 4, 1919 |
| Clegg, W. | August 13, 1919 |
| Tipping, F. W., M.B.E. | November 29, 1919 |
| Murray, C. H. | April 8, 1920 |
| Merrie, D. B., M.C. | April 16, 1921 |
| Fullbrook-Leggatt, L. E. W. —., M.C. | February 2, 1922 |
| Smith, E. A., M.C. | July 31, 1922 |

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*Lieutenants.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Shaw, J. W. (Captain, 4th Bn.) .. .. | January 1, 1917 |
| Vigars, E. H., D.C.M. .. .. .. | August 13, 1917 |
| Isaac, A. H. .. .. .. .. | February 16, 1918 |
| Murray, J. B. .. .. .. .. | April 4, 1918 |
| Coleman, W. H. J. .. .. .. | April 21, 1918 |
| Cowan, J. L. .. .. .. .. | August 14, 1918 |
| Wright, J. W., M.M. .. .. .. | August 15, 1918 |
| Atkins, J. .. .. .. .. .. | September 9, 1918 |
| Davidson, M. C. .. .. .. .. | October 4, 1918 |
| Bennett, A., M.B.E. .. .. .. | February 28, 1919 |
| Haymen, D. E. .. .. .. .. | March 4, 1919 |
| Cuthbert, C. H. .. .. .. .. | April 20, 1919 |
| Beckett, G. J. .. .. .. .. | April 27, 1919 |
| Reddy, T. H. .. .. .. .. | July 31, 1919 |
| Harman, R. M. .. .. .. .. | November 29, 1919 |
| Cassidy, J. M. .. .. .. .. | March 20, 1920 |
| Forse, J. F. .. .. .. .. | August 28, 1920 |
| Sheppard, C. H. .. .. .. .. | May 13, 1921 |
| D'Arcy, G. C. W. .. .. .. | May 19, 1921 |
| Manning, D. E. B. .. .. .. | July 16, 1921 |
| Amherst, Hon. H. W. .. .. .. | September 1, 1926 |
| Thompson, A. L... .. .. .. | July 30, 1927 |
| Mant, J. S. .. .. .. .. | November 25, 1928 |

*2nd Lieutenants.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Kelly, G. F. .. .. .. .. | February 27, 1918 |
| Crosfield, L. M. .. .. .. .. | September 26, 1920 |
| Gossage, S. M. .. .. .. .. | December 6, 1923 |

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## EXTRACTS FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE," 1929.

### First Half-Year

*January* 1.—R.A.R.O., Regtl. List. Captain A. G. Cardy, M.C., D.C.M., ceases to belong to the R. of O. (age limit) December 29.

*January* 22.— Second Lieutenant P. C. Boileau to be Lieutenant, January 15.

Establishments.—Brevet Lieut.-Colonel B. C. T. Paget, D.S.O., M.C., relinquishes the appointment of G.S.O. (2) Staff College, January 14.

*February* 1.—Gent. Cadet John Allan George Robert Humphrey Harden from the R.M. College to be Second Lieutenant, January 31.

*February* 8.—Establishments. Captain W. A. T. Ames to be Officer of a Company of Gentlemen Cadets, R.M.A., January 31.

*February* 22.—Captain W. A. R. Ames is seconded for service as an Officer of a Company of Gentlemen Cadets, R.M.A., January 31.

Second Lieutenants to be Lieutenants, February 4. J. D. Palmer, G. W. Lathbury and remains seconded, T. G. D. Rowley.

*February* 26.—Lieutenant D. S. Newton-King is seconded for duty with the Sudan Defence Force, January 31.

*March* 8.—"Special List" of Quartermasters of the Indian Army. To be Quartermaster with rank of

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Captain, Lieutenant R. H. Coad, M.M., December 1, 1928, with seniority February 22, 1925.

*March* 15.—Commands and Staff. Colonel F. H. Stapleton, C.M.G., is appointed Commander, 10th Infantry Brigade, March 1, and is granted the temporary rank of Brigadier.

*March* 22.—Memoranda. Captain T. G. C. Caulfeild-Stoker, h.p., on completion of five years on half-pay, retires (ill-health) March 21.

*April* 12.—Lieutenant T. J. W. Winterton, from R.A., to be Lieutenant, April 13, retains his present seniority and remains seconded.

*June* 4.—Lieutenant F. T. Horan resigns, June 5.

R.A.R.O. Major R. Stephens to be Lieut.-Colonel, June 6, 1928.

Bucks Bn. Captain (Quartermaster) E. Nicol, M.C., resigns and retains his rank, May 31.

*June* 15.—R.A.R.O. Lieutenant A. L. Thompson (late Service Bns.) to be Lieutenant, May 24, with seriority, July 30, 1927.

*June* 25.—Lieutenant A. B. Slessor is restored to the establishment, June 25.

## Second Half-Year.

*July* 5.—Captain S. C. P. Slattery is seconded for service as an Adjutant, T.A.

Captain C. R. Horley, M.C., is restored to the establishment, June 11.

Territorial Army. 7th Worcestershire Regiment. Major-General Sir R. Fanshawe, K.C.B., D.S.O.,

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retired pay (R. of O.), vacates the appointment of Hon. Colonel on completion of tenure, Jule 6.

4th Bn. Captain S. C. P. Slattery to be Adjutant, June 11.

Lieutenant (Quartermaster) G. T. Arlett, D.C.M., to be Captain (Quartermaster), July 1.

*July* 12.—Territorial Army. 4th Bn. Captain C. B. Crawford vacates the appointment of Adjutant, June 11.

*August* 6.—R.A.R.O. General List. Infantry. Captain (Quartermaster) H. S. Bennell ceases to belong to the R. of O. (age limit), August 6.

*August* 27.—Commands and Staff. Lieut.-Colonel L. E. S. Ward, C.M.G., D.S.O., R. of O., relinquishes the appointment of A.D.C. to Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Nyasaland Protectorate, August 26.

*August* 30.—Second-Lieutenants to be Lieutenants. August 30. J. S. R. Edmunds, H. J. C. Ducat-Hamersley, L. L. Falkiner.

University Candidates to be Second-Lieutenants, August 31. 2nd Lieutenant Hugh Edward Montgomery, from the General List, T.A., with seniority September 3, 1927.

*September* 6.—R.A.R.O. Lieutenant E. C. Simmons resigns September 7, and retains the rank of Lieutenant.

*October* 1.—Garr. Bns. Temp. Lieutenant L. A. Mattock relinquishes his commission on completion of Service, January 20, 1920, and is granted the rank of Captain (correction).

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*October* 18.—(India Office). Captain C. R. Horley, M.C., vacated the appointment of Staff Captain in India, June 6.

*November* 1.—Captain and Bt.-Major G. W. Titherington retires on retired pay, October 13.

*November* 8.—C. B. Crawford retires, receiving a gratuity, November 9.

R.A.R.O. Captain C. B. Crawford (ret.) to be Captain, November 9, with seniority December 1, 1918.

*November* 22.—Territorial Army. 4th Bn. Lieut.-Colonel (Brevet Colonel) J. A. Ballard (Lieut.-Colonel ret. pay) (R. of O.), retires on completion of tenure of command and retains his rank with permission to wear the prescribed uniform, November 7.

Major B. Long, M.C., T.D., to be Lieut.-Colonel, November 7.

Captain M. W. Edmunds to be Major, November 7.

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# RECORDS OF THE FIRST BATTALION

## 1929

### Roll of Officers—December 13, 1929

*Lieut.-Colonel.*

M. F. Day, M.C.

*Majors.*

J. L. Portal, D.S.O.
B. C. T. Paget, D.S.O., M.C. (Bt. Lieut.-Colonel).
J. J. Powell (Depot).
G. F. Plowden, M.C.

*Captains.*

C. W. H. Bailie
H. E. F. Smyth, M.C.
E. A. Packe, M.B.E., D.F.C.
L. W. Giles, M.C. (Depot).
J. W. Meade.
B. Burt Smith, M.C.
H. S. Eagle.

*Lieutenants.*

L. R. Randall.
J. B. Jarvis.
M. T. Stephens
C. W. P. Branson.
M. M. Alston-Roberts-West.
R. H. G. O. Spence.
T. G. D. Rowley.
H. J. C. Ducat-Hamersley.
W. G. Clarke.
M. H. S. Last (Depot)
R. T. Conant.
Hon. C. B. A. Bernard.
C. Clifton.
P. C. Boileau.
J. S. R. Edmunds.

*2nd Lieutenants.*

H. E. Montgomery.

*Adjutant.*

Lieutenant R. H. Doyne.

*Quartermaster.*

Lieutenant E. Smith.

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*Regimental Sergeant-Major.*
D. Walshe.

*Bandmaster.*
D. Plater, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.O.

*Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant.*
W. P. Warnock.

*Orderly Room Sergeant.*
Quartermaster-Sergeant G. F. Giles.

*Instructor of Musketry.*
Sergeant G. White.

## Strength of First Battalion, December 31, 1929

| | |
|---|---|
| Officers .. .. .. .. .. .. | 24 |
| Warrant Officers—Class I and II .. .. | 10 |
| Sergeants .. .. .. .. .. .. | 31 |
| Corporals .. .. .. .. .. .. | 39 |
| Buglers .. .. .. .. .. .. | 16 |
| Privates .. .. .. .. .. .. | 454 |
| | 574 |



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## COMPANIES OF THE FIRST BATTALION.—DECEMBER 31ST, 1929.

| COY. | COMMANDING. | COMPANY OFFICERS. | COY.-SGT.-MAJOR. | COY.QR.MR.-SGT. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | Captain J. W. Meade | Lieut. C. W. P. Branson<br>Lieut. J. S. R. Edmunds<br>2nd Lieut. H. E. Montgomery | T. Wise | H. North, M.M. |
| B | Captain C. W. H. Bailie | Captain H. S. Eagle<br>Lieut. L. R. Randall<br>Lieut. M. T. Stephens<br>Lieut. T. G. D. Rowley | A. Chantry | A. Hazell |
| C | Captain B. Burt Smith, M.C. | Lieut. R. T. Conant<br>Lieut. Hon. C. B. A. Bernard<br>Lieut. P. C. Boileau | C. LeMasurier | W. Norris |
| M.G. | Captain H. E. F. Smyth, M.C. | Captain E. A. Packe, M.B.E., D.F.C.<br>Lieut. C. Clifton<br>Lieut. R. H. G. O. Spence<br>Lieut. H. J. C. Ducat-Hamersley | S. Burnell | A. Dum. |
| H.Q. Wing | Major G. F. Plowden | Lieut. W. G. Clarke<br>Lieut. J. B. Jarvis<br>Lieut. M. M. Alston-Roberts-West | W. Older, M.M | W. Bull, M.M. |

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## SUMMARY OF FIRST BATTALION DIARY

PARKHURST.

*January* 3.—Draft of 27 Recruits arrived from the Regimental Depot. 2nd Lieut. T. G. Rowley proceeded to Army School of Signalling, Catterick, and qualified (Instructor's Certificate).

*January* 11.—Lieut. R. H. Doyne awarded "Diploma." Army School of Physical Training.

*January* 14.—Draft of 28 Recruits arrived from the Regimental Depot.

*January* 21.—2nd Lieut. J. S. R. Edmunds proceeded on Long Course at Army School of Physical Training on January 8th.

Captain W. A. R. Ames attached to Army School of Education from 13/1/29 to 26/1/29.

*January* 28.—2nd Lieut. P. C. Boileau to be Lieutenant (Authority, L.G. dated 15/1/29).

*January* 31st.—Captain W. A. R. Ames to Royal Military Academy as an Officer of a Company of Gentlemen Cadets.

*February* 1.—Lieut. D. S. Newton-King to Sudan Defence Force and Seconded.

*February* 4.—Lieut. Hon. C. B. A. Bernard on Range Finder Course at Royal Military College of Science.

*February* 9.—2nd Lieut. J. A. G. R. H. Harden gazetted to Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry (Authority, L.G. dated 1/2/29).

*February* 14.—Major-General H. H. S. Knox, C.B.,

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D.S.O., Director of Military Training, visited the Regiment.

*February* 26.—Draft of 1 Sergeant, 1 Corporal, 44 Privates and 9 boys sailed from Southampton on H.T. *Nevasa* for 52nd.

*March* 4.—2nd Lieut. C. D. L. Pepys (Sup. Res.) attached to Regiment for four weeks.

*March* 5.—Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Day, M.C., on Southern Command Administrative Exercise till March 9th.

*March* 5.—Inter-Company Cross Country Run. Won by X Company.

*March* 7.—Draft of 35 Recruits arrived from the Regimental Depot.

*March* 9.—Draft of 2 C.Q.M.S. and 3 Sergeants all with families, sailed from Tilbury for 52nd.

*March* 14.—Isle of Wight Point-to-Point. Regimental race for Chargers and Government hired horses.

*April* 4.—Old Berkshire Hunt Point-to-Point. Team race *v.* 2nd Bn. Rifle Brigade. Rifle Brigade won by 41 points to 31 and retain the Cup.

*April* 9.—Inspection of the Regiment by the G.O.C. in-C., Southern Command, and presentation of Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to Lce.-Sgt. Hopkins, Cpl. Bone and Pte. Turner.

*April* 13.—Regimental Race with Pegasus Club Point-to-Point at Poppet's Hill.

*April* 22.—Lieut. W. G. Clarke, to S.A.S., Hythe, on Qualifying Course and qualified (Q.1).

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Lieut. P. C. Boileau on six days Command Intelligence Course.

*April* 29.—Signallers' Classification: Result, 31 classified out of 31 put up. Average, 99.75 per cent.

Captain L. W. Giles, M.C., posted to the Regimental Depot for tour of duty vice Captain H. E. F. Smyth, M.C.

*April* 30.—Lieut. J. B. Jarvis on Refereeing and Judging Course, P.T. School, Aldershot.

*May* 7.—Captain H. E. F. Smyth, M.C., rejoins from the Regimental Depot and takes over Command of the M.G. Company.

*May* 13.—Colonel Day attended the 3rd Div. Staff Exercises till May 16th.

Bugle Major and 14 Buglers proceeded to Olympia to take part in Massed Bugle display at the Royal Tournament with Rifle Brigade, 60th, and Somerset Light Infantry.

*May* 24.—Captain H. E. F. Smyth, M.C., and Lieut. R. H. G. O. Spence to Netheravon for M.G. Course. Both qualified (Q.1).

*May* 25.—Regimental Team Sports.

Royal Tournament at Olympia starts.

*May* 30.—General Election. Polling day.

*June* 3.—H.M. the King's Birthday parade.

*June* 8.—Information received that Lieut. M. T. Stephens will be cross-posted from the 52nd during the next trooping season.

*June* 18.—Information received that Major (Brevet Lieut.-Colonel) B. C. T. Paget, D.S.O., M.C., is

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posted to the Regiment on relinquishing Staff appointment.

*June* 22—27.—Regimental Cricket Week at Cowley Barracks. Matches played *v.* Colonel Wynter's XI, Colonel Ashton's XI, Gentlemen of Bucks and Sandhurst Wanderers.

*June* 22.—Machine Gun Company proceeded to Netheravon for concentration.

*July* 6.—Information received that Captain H. S. Eagle is cross-posted from 52nd, with orders to report on January 30, 1930.

*July* 6.—Regiment marched out to Brook Camp for Battalion Training.

*July* 10.—Inspection of Barracks and Camp by Major General i/c Administration, Southern Command.

*July* 11—13.—Army Athletic Team Championships at Aldershot. Regiment obtained 4th place. Standards very high and over 20 Army Records broken.

*July* 20.—Regiment marched back to barracks on conclusion of Battalion Training.

*July* 20.—Army Individual Athletic Championships. The following received Army Colours:

Lieut. J. P. A. Graham.
Lieut. Hon. C. B. A. Bernard.
Lieut. M. M. Alston-Roberts-West.
Lieut. P. C. Boileau.
Lieut. J. B. Jarvis.
Sgt. Harcourt.

*July* 31.—The strength of the Regiment on this day was—28 Officers and 579 Other Ranks.

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*August* 11.—Advance Party and "C" Company proceeded to Tidworth Pennings Camp for Congreve Cup Competition and Brigade Training.

*August* 17.—Congreve Cup Competition.

*August* 18.—Regiment proceed to Tidworth Pennings in two trains for Collective Training.

*August* 19—21.—Southern Command W.T. Meeting. Regiment obtained 4th place in the aggregate.

*August* 21.—Southern Command Horse Show for Infantry Transport and Officers' Chargers.

*August* 22.—Brigade Training starts.

*August* 30.—2nd Lieutenants J. S. R. Edmunds and H. J. C. Ducat-Hamersley promoted Lieutenants (L.H. dated 30/8/29).

*August* 31.—Brigade Training ended.

*September* 4.—Regiment marched to Cholderton to take part in Southern Command Exercise.

*September* 7.—Schneider Trophy at Calshot. Won by F.O. Waghorn (Great Britain) in a Supermarine Rolls Royce S.6 at 328 m.p.h.

*September* 10.—Regiment marched out to Porton Area to take part in War Office Exercise No. 1.

*September* 12.—End of W.O. Exercise. Regiment marched back to Fargo Camp.

*September* 15.—Regiment marched to Warminster for concentration preparatory to taking part in War Office Exercise No. 2 in Imber area.

*September* 19.—Dispersal to peace stations. Regiment arrived at Parkhurst 4.30 p.m.

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*September* 24.—Draft of 46 Recruits arrived from the Regimental Depot.

*September* 30.—2nd Lieut. H. E. Montgomery arrives and is attached to letter "A" Company pending posting to either Battalion.

*October* 2.—Information received that 2nd Lieut. J. A. G. R. H. Harden will proceed to India with a draft for the 52nd Light Infantry on or about December 10, 1929.

*October* 4.—Lieut. H. J. C. Ducat-Hamersley proceeded to Netheravon for Machine Gun Qualifying Course and qualified Q.1.

*October* 8.—Lieut. R. T. Conant reports for duty on cross-posting from 52nd Light Infantry.

*October* 31.—Annual Inspection of the Regiment by the Brigade Commander, Brigadier G. W. Howard, C.M.G., D.S.O.

The strength of the Regiment on this day was 29 Officers and 607 Other Ranks. This includes 3 Officers posted and not yet joined.

*November* 1.—Captain and Brevet Major G. W. Titherington retires on retired pay 30/10/29. (Authority "London Gazette," dated 1/11/29.)

*November* 3.—Lieut. J. P. A. G. Graham appointed Adjutant at the Depot vice Lieut. J. A. Theobalds.

*November* 4.—Lieut. L. R. Randall proceeded on Officer's P.T. Course, at Army School of Physical Training, Aldershot.

*November* 8.—Captain C. B. Crawford retires receiving a gratuity. (Authority: "London Gazette, dated 8/11/29.)

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*November* 10.—Regiment with Band and Buglers parade in Newport (I.W.) for Armistice Day Service.

*November* 11.—Lieut. C. W. P. Branson proceeded on Provost Duties Course, Aldershot.

*November* 14.—Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Day, M.C., visits Regimental Depot.

*November* 18.—Deputy Military Secretary paid the Regiment a visit and interviewed Officers.

Lieut. R. T. Conant proceeded to Shorncliffe on an Educational Course.

*November* 21.—Draft of 28 Recruits arrived from the Regimental Depot.

*November* 29.—Inspector of Remounts visited Regiment with a view to casting certain animals.

*December* 10.—The first draft for the 52nd Light Infantry, consisting of Lieut. J. A. Theobalds, 2nd Lieut. J. A. G. R. H. Harden and 72 Other Ranks embarked on H.M.T. *Nevasa* at Southampton bound for Bombay, and thence to Burmah.

*December* 12.—Major (Bt.-Lieut.-Colonel) B. C. T. Paget, D.S.O., M.C., completed his attachment at the Imperial Defence College, and is granted leave prior to joining.

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## FIRST BATTALION LETTER, 1929.

DEAR EDITOR,

During the year 1929 our adventures and activities have been so singularly lacking in excitement that it will be no easy matter to produce either an amusing or instructive letter. However, we must set to work to put on record the doings of the Regiment during the year.

January saw the arrival of Q.M.S. Giles, C.S.M. Lay, C.S.M. Older, and several non-commissioned officers from the 52nd, to all of whom we extend our welcome. During the same month Newton-King left us for the Sudan, and Ames went to the " Shop " as an Officer of a Company of Gentlemen Cadets. In February, Portal arrived from the 52nd, and took over the onerous duties of second in command and President of the Regimental Institute; and shortly after this, Harden was posted to us on first Commission from Sandhurst.

Then the point-to-point season began, the chief event in which was our annual team race against our old friends the Rifle Brigade.

This was won by them for the third time in five years, we having won the two remaining races. For various reasons, that of expense being chief among them, it has been mutually agreed to discontinue these team races, anyhow until the two Regiments are in closer proximity to one another. This, and all other details of point to points, are dealt with elsewhere, so further comment here is superfluous.

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On April 9th, we were inspected by Lieut.-General Sir Archibald Montgomery Massingberd, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., G.-O.-C.-in-C. Southern Command, who expressed himself well pleased with everything he saw.

Once again we completed our Weapon Training and Company Training by the end of June. Our Musketry Camp was in the same place as last year at Newtown. Three Companies carried out Company marches on the Island during April and May and derived considerable benefit from them.

On May 13th, the Bugle-Major and 14 Buglers (including two spare men) went up to London to practise for a bugle display at the Royal Tournament. This was the first one of its kind, and besides the Regiment, there were the Rifle Brigade, 60th and Somerset Light Infantry, each with the same number of buglers taking part. Naturally, we were all on tenterhooks lest our Buglers should prove to be below the very high standard that was bound to be set, and a lot of work was put in practising for the great day. The display was most impressive. Many people (not Light Infantrymen or Riflemen) declaring it was far and away the best thing done at Olympia. If noise has anything to do with it, it certainly was, as they made Olympia tremble till one feared for the roof. Of course, 50 massed Buglers are apt to be heard, especially in a confined space such as Olympia. Although it is impossible to single out good or bad individual performers in such a show, suffice it to say that our buglers were in no way inferior to the other three Regiments.

On June 22nd, the Machine Gun Company went to Netheravon for a fortnight's Concentration with the

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Machine Gun Companies of the other regiments in the Brigade. They rejoined us at Brook Camp the day before Battalion Training started. The latter was carried out under ideal conditions, and we had some very interesting days including one mountain warfare scheme and a trench to trench attack.

At the end of Battalion Training came the Army Athletic Championships, with the Regiment collectively on its toes with excitement. We had hoped that we might defeat last year's winners, who had been transferred to Belfast since the previous meeting, as Graham had got together a really useful team, whose all-round capabilities were considerably improved. But ill luck dogged us, and largely owing to many untimely casualties we could only finish fourth. (A full account appears elsewhere.)

Then followed the training break, when we were able to taste of the flesh pots of Cowes and Bembridge in the height of their seasons, and on August 18, we turned to more serious matters, once more setting sail for the desolate wastes of Salisbury Plain. First came the Command Weapon Training Meeting, followed by Brigade Training. During all this time we were back at the now familiar old Tidworth Pennings Camp. It is generally agreed that this is by far the best and most comfortable of all the camps round Tidworth (and we have sampled all bar Windmill Hill). It is not proposed here to deal with the doings of the Regiment on training, as a very complete and witty contribution has already been written (not by me, Editor !)

Some of us were lucky enough to come over to the Island on September 7 to see the race for the Schneider

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Trophy. This was the most awe-inspiring and thrilling spectacle we have ever witnessed, and was a complete triumph for British workmanship and skill. Mention of this contest may seem out of place here, but as it is apparently the last time that the Royal Air Force will ever compete for it (owing to the gigantic expense involved) and as all existing air speed records were broken, we feel we may be excused.

To return to our muttons, the Regiment then took part in two War Office exercises, after the first of which we established ourselves in Fargo Camp.

Can there be a more bleak and desolate place? We doubt it. However, we were not there long, and on September 19th, we packed up and returned to Parkhurst, having spent just over a month on Salisbury Plain. The weather, if a little too hot at times, behaved itself perfectly: in fact we only had one wet night in the whole month.

Once more back in the Island, we settled down to the usual winter routine, of which there is not very much to recount. We are preparing two drafts for the 52nd, one of which has already gone, and by the time the second one has departed, we shall have practically no men left in the poor rifle companies.

Conant arrived in October on cross posting from the 52nd, and about the same time Montgomery came to us on first Commission.

Having endured what looked like proving to be an endless drought from about February to October, we are now being nearly flooded out of house and home, and one wonders whether it will ever stop raining. What makes matters worse is that the roof in the Mess is not as waterproof as it might be, so

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that it is by no means a rare occurrence to wake up in the middle of the night to find rain water steadily dripping on to one's bed.

This bad weather has not been productive of good sport; however we have managed to have some quite amusing days out hunting, and have got a very fair lot of chargers and hired troop horses.

Let us pray that the end of the season will not be so disastrous as last year, either in the matter of horse casualties or frost.

Yours ever,
43RD.

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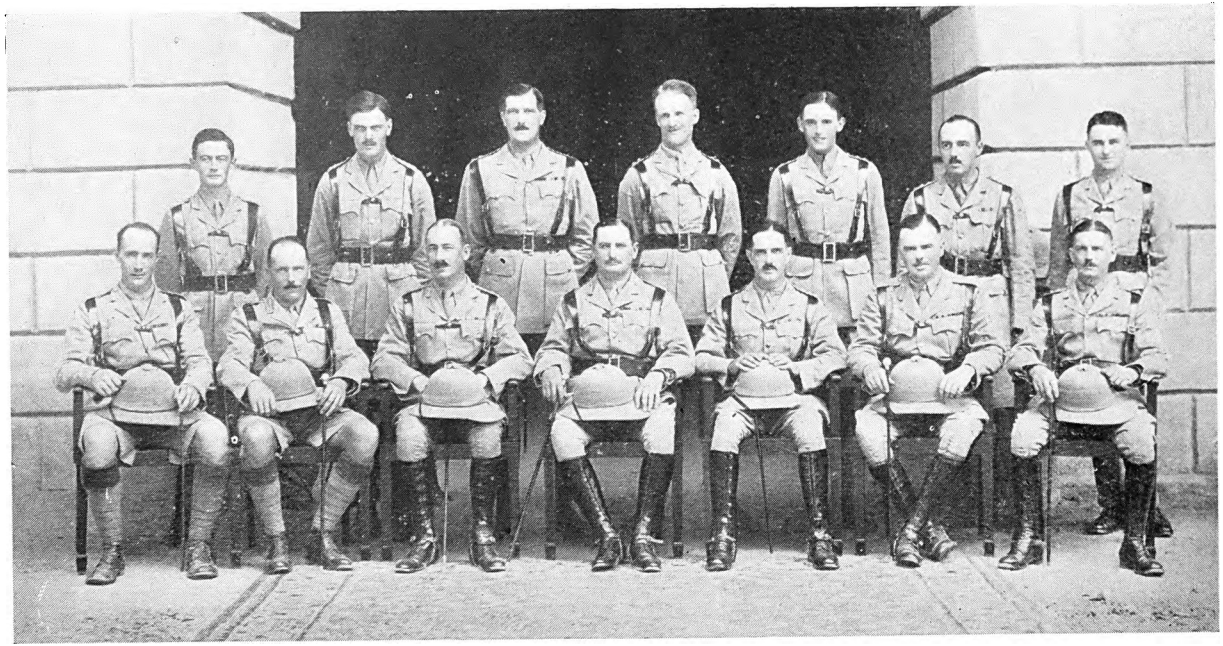

OFFICERS, 2ND BATTALION, CALCUTTA, 1929.

Lt. G. C. H. Wykeham, Lt. G. G. Hughes, Lt. and Q.M. F. Clare, Lt. K. Bayley, Lt. R. H. Cooke, Capt. H. Vernon, Lt. J. D. Palmer, Capt. P. Booth, Capt. E. H. Whitfeld, Maj. W. G. Tolson, Lt.-Col. A. E. Sanderson, Capt. K. Horan, Maj. A. C. M. Paris, Capt. G. Naylor.

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# RECORDS OF THE SECOND BATTALION

## 1929

### ROLL OF OFFICERS—DECEMBER 31, 1929

*Lieut.-Colonel.*

A. E. Sanderson, D.S.O.

*Majors*

G. E. Whittall, M.C.
A. C. M. Paris, M.C.
W. G. Tolson, M.C.

*Captains.*

E. H. Whitfeld, M.C. (2)
E. L. O. Baddeley (2)
P. Booth
C. J. Eyston
A. B. Hamilton.
G. Naylor, M.C.
C. R. Horley, M.C.
H. Vernon
D. C. Colvill, M.C. (1)

*Lieutenants.*

K. S. Wootten
J. E. D. Kilburn (2)
E. C. Richards (1)
G. C. H. Wykeham
K. Bayley
R. H. Cooke
J. D. Palmer
J. Thorne (2)
J. A. Theobalds
G. G. Hughes
A. B. Slessor
P. F. Metcalfe
C. L. C. Ward
L. L. Falkiner.

---

(1) Depot Oxford. (2) Leave England.

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*2nd Lieutenant.*
J. A. G. R. H. Harden.

*Adjutant.*
Captain K. Horan.

*Quartermaster.*
Lieut. F. Clare, D.C.M.

*Regimental Sergeant-Major.*
E. J. Smith, D.C.M., M.M.

*Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant.*
H. Hotine.

*Orderly Room Sergeant.*
Compy.-Sergeant-Major G. W. Green, M.M.

## Strength of Second Battalion

### December 31, 1929

| | |
|---|---|
| Officers | 30 |
| Warrant Officers—Class I and II | 8 |
| Colour Sergeants and Sergeants | 29 |
| Corporals | 40 |
| Buglers | 16 |
| Other ranks | 732 |
| Total | 855 |

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# COMPANIES OF THE SECOND BATTALION.—DECEMBER 31ST, 1929.

| COY. | COMMANDER. | COMPANY OFFICERS. | COY.-SGT.-MAJOR. | COY.QR.MR.SGT. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | Major A. C. M. Paris, M.C. | Captain H. Vernon<br>Lieutenant K. S. Wootten<br>Lieutenant J. A. Theobalds<br>Lieutenant P. F. Metcalfe<br>Lieutenant L. L. Falkiner | E. Charles | J. Keen. |
| B | Captain G. Naylor, M.C. | Captain C. J. Eyston<br>Lieutenant J. Thorne<br>Lieutenant A. B. Slessor<br>Lieutenant C. L. C. Ward | C. Bailey, D.C.M. | B. Dudley |
| C | Captain P. Booth | Lieutenant J. E. D. Kilburn<br>Lieutenant G. C. H. Wykeham<br>Lieutenant R. H. Cooke<br>2nd Lieutenant J. A. G. R. H. Harden | (Vacant) | F. Soanes |
| M.G. | Captain C. R. Horley, M.C. | Captain A. B. Hamilton<br>Lieutenant G. G. Hughes<br>Lieutenant J. D. Palmer | F. Balaam | T. Holland |
| H.Q. Wing | Major W. G. Tolson, M.C. | Lieutenant K. Bayley | R. Prestney | P. Barlow, M.M. |



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## SUMMARY OF SECOND BATTALION DIARY

*January* 1.—Proclamation Parade.

Captain K. Horan rejoined from leave and re-assumed the duties of Adjutant.

*January* 4.—Lieut. F. T. Horan is granted an additional 4 months extension of leave in England pending resignation.

*January* 6.—Letter "A" and "C" Companies proceeded to Sonarpur for Company Training.

*January* 7.—The Regimental pattern blue blazer and khaki topee came into use for all ranks for recreational training.

*January* 12.—General Girouard, Military Governor of Paris, who is staying in Government House visited Fort William and walked round the Mess.

*January* 13.—A small draft of invalids and men for discharge and transfer to the Home Establishment, strength 11 all ranks, left for Bombay.

*January* 17.—Letter "A" and "C" Companies returned from the Training Camp at Sonarpur.

*January* 19.—The Signallers, Buglers and 1 Section M.G. Platoon returned from Jemalpur Camp.

*January* 20.—Letter "B" and "D" Companies and the Intelligence Section (Buglers) left for Sonarpur for ten days Company Training.

*January* 21.—The Demonstration Platoon found by Letter "A" Company, left for Chittagong to carry

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out a series of demonstrations for the local A.F.I. units.

*January* 22.—Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Sanderson, D.S.O., joined the Regiment from the United Kingdom.

The Signallers, Buglers and 1 Section M.G. Platoon left for Sonarpur for training.

*January* 23.—Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Sanderson, D.S.O., took over Command of the Regiment from Major W. G. Tolson, M.C.

*January* 27.—The Demonstration Platoon returned from Chittagong.

*January* 29.—The General Officer Commanding, Presidency and Assam District, inspected the Companies and Headquarter Wing personnel training at Sonarpur.

*January* 30.—Annual Inspection at Fort William of the Regiment by the General Officer Commanding Presidency and Assam District.

*January* 31.—Captain C. J. Eyston joined the Regiment on posting from the United Kingdom.

*February* 1.—Orders issued for polished boots to be worn, and for officers, warrant officers and colour-sergeants to wear jackets except for field training and route marches.

*February* 2.—A permanent Regimental Cadre was formed.

*February* 3.—Captain H. Vernon joined the Regiment from the United Kingdom,

*February* 4.—Major A. C. M. Paris, M.C., joined the Regiment from the United Kingdom.

Tattoo rehearsals commenced.

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A draft consisting of 17 British other ranks left Howrah for Bombay en route to the United Kingdom for discharge, transfer to the Reserve and Home Establishment, under the Command of Captain A. B. Hamilton.

*February* 8.—Captain H. Vernon proceeded to Roorkee to attend a course in Field Works.

*February* 10.—Last party of musketry casuals under Captain H. E. Eagle, left for Jafferpore Camp.

*February* 15.—Major A. C. M. Paris, M.C., took over Command and Payment of Letter "A" Company, which will in future be known as Letter "A" or Major A. C. M. Paris's Company.

*February* 21.—The Regimental Cross Country Run was carried out. Company Sergeant-Major Bailey, D.C.M., was the first man home and Letter "B" Company won comfortably.

*February* 25.—Lieut. C. L. C. Ward rejoined the Regiment from the Small Arms School, Pachmarhi,

*February* 26.—Lieut. Bayley and Cooke proceeded to Pachmarhi for the second Officers' Course at the Small Arms School.

*March* 8.—Classes for Signallers and Cadre started. The individual Training programme came into effect.

*March* 18.—Two cotton shirts sanctioned to be worn in place of one flannel shirt.

*March* 23.—Draft of 45 other ranks arrived from England, information that 10 more were left at Bombay for isolation. The draft went into segregation.

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*April* 2.—Captain G. Naylor, M.C., appointed officiating Staff Captain Presidency and Assam District.

*April* 5.—Draft inspected by the Commander, Presidency and Assam District.

District Signalling Course commenced.

*April* 13.—Information received that Lieut. J. E. Dunbar-Kilburn relinquished appointment of A.D.C. to the General Officer Commanding Presidency and Assam District, from April 2.

*April* 16.—Letter " D " Company moved to the Hills with the families.

*April* 20.—Information received that Lieut. J. D. Palmer and Sgt. Wilson qualified at 1st Qualifying Course at Machine Gun Wing, Ahmednagar.

The Commanding Officer inspected the kits of Letter " A " Company.

*April* 24.—Information received that Captain E. H. Whitfeld, M.C., passed promotion examination subject (*c*) (1) on March 9.

*May* 1.—Information received that Captain C. R. Horley, M.C., will be attached to the Regiment pending posting.

*May* 3.—Major Tolson, M.C., assumed Command of the Regiment.

*May* 11.—Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Sanderson, D.S.O., resumed Command of the Regiment.

*May* 14.—Inspection by the General Officer Commanding Presidency and Assam District accompanied by Major-General Rhyse-Pryce, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the relieving Commander.

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*May* 17.—All officers went through the Calcutta Internal Security Scheme with the Commanding Officer in view of a possibility of trouble on May 28.

*June* 11.—The Gymnastic team gave a display at the Y.M.C.A. in the evening.

*June* 14.—Major-General Solly-Flood, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., dined with the officers.

*June* 17.—The Acting General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command (Major-General Solly-Flood, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.), inspected the Regiment.

He watched the Individual Training being carried out, saw the mules and polo ponies, and had breakfast in the Mess, then walked through Letter " A " Companies barrack rooms, cookhouse, corporals' room, sergeants' mess and orderly room, where he discussed various points with the Commanding Officer.

*June* 18.—WATERLOO DAY. Orderly Room 7.30 a.m. All-Ranks dance at the Dalhousie Institute 9 p.m. Parties of men who will not go to Hills proceeded to Behala for tea and bathing.

*June* 19.—Swimming contests in Calcutta swimming baths. A party went to Behala as on June 18.

*July* 1.—The new organisation of Headquarter Wing, three Rifle Companies and the Machine Gun Company came into force after a telegram had been received on the 29th cancelling the whole thing and another one on the 30th putting it on again ; Men of Letter " D " Company were transferred to the other three. Companies and all ex-machine gunners of the " M.G." Platoon, rejoined the Machine Gun Company.

Captain E. H. Whitfeld, M.C., took over Command

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of the Machine Gun Company, and Companies are now Commanded as under :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Headquarter Wing | .. | Captain E. L. O. Baddeley. |
| Letter " A " Company | .. | Major A. C. M. Paris, M.C. |
| Letter " B " Company | .. | Capt. C. R. Horley, M.C. |
| Letter " C " Company | .. | Capt. G. Naylor, M.C. |
| The Machine Gun Company. | .. | Capt. E. H. Whitfeld, M.C. |

A Regimental Cadre Course was commenced under Lieut. R. H. Cooke, consisting of 28 N.C.O.'s and a Regimental P.T. Class commenced under Lieut. K. S. Wootton.

*July* 5.—A conference of senior officers was held on the new Standing Orders of the 43rd and 52nd Light Infantry.

*July* 8.—Information was received that Lieut. M. T. Stephens and Lieut. R. T. Conant, were transferred to the First Battalion under para. 194 *King's Regulations* 1928.

*July* 12.—Information was received that Captain C. R. Horley, M.C., passed subject (D) for promotion at the examination held in March 1929.

*July* 16.—The Commanding Officer inspected the newly formed Machine Gun Company on parade for the first time.

*July* 18.—A Rugby football and boxing team went to Khargpur to compete against the Bengal Nagpur Railway.

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*July* 19.—Letter "B" Company with Buglers under the Command of Captain C. R. Horley, M.C., returned from Lebong in the morning. Letter "C" Company under the Command of Captain P. Booth, proceeded to Lebong in the afternoon.

*July* 23.—Information received by private wire that Capt. E. M. Whitfeld, M.C., had received a nomination for the Staff College, Quetta.

*July* 26.—The Adjutant carried out a Bugle Classification Test and the full establishment of Buglers was made up.

*August* 14.—The General Officer Commanding, Presidency and Assam District, inspected a Platoon of Letter "A" Company, under Lieut. K. S. Wootten carrying out embussing and debussing and various actions required by a Platoon occupying a street picquet during Internal Security Duties. The General Officer Commanding, Presidency and Assam District, lectured to all Regular Officers, Officers of the A.I.R.O. and our platoon sergeants on "The Handling of Riots."

*August* 15.—The General Officer Commanding Presidency and Assam District inspected the Guards and Guard Room of the Regiment.

*September* 6.—Letter "C" Company under the Command of Captain P. Booth, returned from Lebong.

Letter "A" Company and the Signallers moved to Lebong, Major A. C. M. Paris, M.C., in command.

*September* 27.—Presidency and Assam District boxing tournament commenced.

*September* 28.—Captains C. J. Eyston and A. B.

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Hamilton, left for Shillong for their promotion examination (*c*).

*September* 29.—Lieuts. G. C. H. Wykeham and R. H. Cooke, left for Shillong for their promotion examination in subject (*a*).

*October* 1.—First Class Certificate examination commenced. The Machine Gun Company and the Intelligence Section under the Command of Lieut. J. D. Palmer and Lieut. C. L. C. Ward respectively left for Jafferpore to fire their annual course.

*October* 2.—Captain C. J. Eyston and A. B. Hamilton rejoined from Shillong.

Lecture to the Regiment by the Metropolitan of India on the subject " Caste."

*October* 7.—The first draft for the UnitedKingdom (30 for discharge and transfer to the Army Reserve and 1 invalid) left Calcutta en route to Bombay.

*October* 15.—Lieut. A. B. Slessor joined the Regiment from the First Battalion. The Machine Gun Company commenced classification.

*October* 22.—Annual inspection of arms and bicycles by the C.C.M.A., Presidency and Assam District, commenced.

*October* 25.—On this day and on October 28 and November 1, group photographs of the Regiment were taken for inclusion in a Regimental album.

Extract from *London Gazette* dated 30/8/29, 2nd Lieut. L. L. Falkiner to be Lieutenant.

Captain H. Vernon and Lieut. G. G. Hughes rejoined the Regiment from the Small Arms School, Pachmarhi.

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*November* 2.—The Guard of Honour to be found by the Regiment at the Armistice Day parade commenced rehearsal parades.

*November* 5.—The Deputy Assistant Director of Hygiene, Presidency and Assam District inspected the lines of the Regiment.

*November* 18.—Loading of heavy baggage commenced.

*November* 20.—Advanced Party of the Loyal Regiment from Secunderabad arrived.

*November* 21.—Our relief, 1st Battalion Loyal Regiment, arrived by train at Howrah Station at 12 noon in two trains. The Band and Buglers played them from Howrah to the Camp outside Saint George's Gate, where they stayed until we left. Guards and Duties were handed over at 3 p.m.

*November* 22.—The Regiment paraded at 6.15 a.m. and marched to Outram Ghatt where they embarked on the S.S. *Tairea*.

The marching out state was 18 officers and 691 other ranks. The embarkation was completed by 9.30 a.m. and the ship left at 10.15 a.m. The Bands of the Loyal Regiment, the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, and the 3/12th Frontier Force Regiment, played on the Quay.

The following officers embarked with the Regiment :—

Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Sanderson, D.S.O., Major W. G. Tolson, M.C., Major A. C. M. Paris, M.C., Captain and Adjutant K. Horan, Captain C. R. Horley, M.C., Captain P. Booth, Captain C. J. Eyston, Captain H. Vernon, Captain A. B. Hamilton, Lieut. M. T.

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Stephens, Lieut. G. G. Hughes, Lieut. G. C. H. Wykeham, Lieut. K. Bayley, Lieut. A. B. Slessor, Lieut. P. F. Metcalfe, Lieut. C. L. C. Ward, Lieut. J. D. Palmer, Lieut. L. L. Falkiner.

The following officers had preceded the Regiment with the Advanced Party :—Captain G. Naylor, M.C., Lieut. and Quartermaster F. Clare, D.C.M., Lieut. R. H. Cooke.

*November* 23.—At sea a very calm passage.

*November* 24.—At sea.

*November* 25.—Arrived at Latter Street Wharf, Rangoon, at about 6.30 a.m. Disembarked at once.

The Regiment moved to Maymyo and Mandalay in three trains as under :—

*To Maymyo.*—First train : Regimental Headquarters, " M.G. " Company (less Indian Platoon) and Letter " B " Company, nine families.

Second train : Letter " C " Company, Headquarter Wing and Indian Platoon, remainder of families, less those for Mandalay.

*To Mandalay.*—Third train : Letter " A " Company, and heavy baggage of the Regiment, which later came on to Maymyo.

*November* 26.—The Regiment less Letter " A " Company on detachment at Mandalay, arrived at Maymyo and moved into Alexandra Barracks, relieving the 2nd Bn. Manchester Regiment. The latter left for Rangoon en route to Secunderabad, the same day, sleeping the night in the train at Maymyo Station. Guard and Duties were taken over at 1 p.m.

*November* 27.—Settling into Quarters.

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*November* 29.—Lieut. M. T. Stephens left for the United Kingdom on posting to the Home Establishment.

*December* 1.—The Machine Gun Company under the Command of Captain C. R. Horley, M.C., proceeded to Wetwin Camp for a concentration camp.

Brevet Colonel J. A. Yates, C.I.E., D.S.O., officiating D.A.A. and Q.M.G., Maymyo, died. The Regiment paraded as strong as possible at 4 p.m. as escort and also provided the Band and Buglers, firing party and bearer party for the funeral.

*December* 2.—Letter "B" Company, Band and Buglers commenced the Annual Musketry Course.

*December* 6.—Brigadier H. St. G. S. Scott, D.S.O., Commandant Small Arms Schools, India, visited the Regiment, watched Letter "B" Company on the Range and spoke to all officers.

*December* 7.—Brigadier H. St. G. S. Scott, D.S.O., the Commanding Officer and the Adjutant went to Wetwin Camp where he inspected the Machine Gun Company at Field Training.

*December* 9.—Letter "C" Company, Signallers and Group 3 Headquarter Wing, commenced Preliminary Musketry.

*December* 16.—Training for A.R.A. Competitions commenced (King George Cup and Brooke Bond Cup).

*December* 21.—The Machine Gun Company returned from Wetwin Camp.

*December* 24.—Letter "A" Company completed Classification.

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*December* 25.—Christmas Day. The Regiment paraded as strong as possible for Church Parade in the morning.

Companies mostly had dinners by Platoons and the rooms were well decorated.

*December* 26.—A draft left the Regiment en route to Bombay and the United Kingdom for discharge and transfer to the Army Reserve, vocational training and invalids. Strength, 74 all ranks.

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## SECOND BATTALION LETTER, 1929

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

The opening of the year 1929 found the Regiment under Tolson still in the Fort at Calcutta and performing the everlasting round of Guards, Duties, Boards and Courts of Enquiry. The Machine Gun Platoon, Signallers and 24 buglers, the last named under training as runners, were in camp at Jamalpur, while "A" and "C" Companies or rather the skeleton that could be spared from duties were in camp at Sonapur in which delectable spot two Companies at a time were allowed to remain for a short ten days to do their best to carry out a semblance of Company training. Sonapur camp is a pleasant spot situated in the middle of a swampy bit of ground with no shade of any sort. This is approached by a so-called road up which such modern vehicles as motor-cars and lorries can only proceed in very dry weather and down which are carried daily the unfortunate victims of cholera and other diseases from the surrounding villages. From the training point of view it is most inferior, flat as a pancake, boggy paddy fields with collections of a few mud huts here and there, however as this ten days was the only manœuvre training which we could hope for, the best had to be made of it. Meanwhile during January a demonstration platoon consisting of 35 men of "A" Company with Sgt. Johnson as Platoon Sergeant, and under the command of Naylor, toured the Auxiliary Force Units in the District giving a demonstration of "How it should be

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done." They acquitted themselves very creditably and reports of their usefulness and good example were received from all sides, apparently they also enjoyed themselves.

On January 22, Colonel Sanderson arrived and took over command from Tolson, who had been commanding since Portal left for the 43rd. in November, 1928. A few days after his arrival, the Colonel was sent for by District Headquarters, and Major-General Ward, always suave and persuasive in his manner, gently intimated that he wanted him to take on the control and management of the Calcutta Tattoo which was to be produced in March. "Of course there is really nothing at all to do, it is all very simple," said the General, the Colonel however had already "had some" at Oxford and suggested that possibly the District Staff were not worked off their legs.

At the end of January the usual annual inspection by the District Commander took place. Everybody tied their books in bundles and took them to the Orderly Room only to fetch them back again quite unharmed the following day. We were inspected on parade and told we were good boys, the usual questions being asked of those displaying medals. Nowadays, those few who had medals must always be prepared with a ready answer on inspections as they are sure to be "for it."

During the month of March, tattoo fever was at its height. Tattoos are so numerous nowadays and, although the 52nd naturally had to find most of the turns, it was not a Regimental show. It is therefore unnecessary to describe it, suffice it to say that everybody worked with a will and the audience voted our

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efforts to be good and well staged. Unfortunately we had two disasters in that Pte. Maloney in going through the motions of ramming down the charge in his musket was badly hurt in the hand by the blank round going off with the result that he has had to be discharged on medical grounds; and Sgt. Hunt, as the Devil in the modern St. George, motoring fast through the scenery hit a culvert and narrowly escaped death, actually doing a great deal of damage to his knee which we are glad to say is now all right again.

On completion of the tattoo we all settled down to ordinary life and March 8 was a hectic day as marking the commencement of the Individual Training Programme. On this day a series of Cadre Courses, and in fact every possible Regimental class including one of over 100 men as machine gunners, commenced. The Cadre Courses continued throughout the season and practically every N.C.O. in the Regiment was put through.

Each Company complete in turn, with a part of the Headquarter Wing attached, went to Lebong for six weeks during the hot weather and completed their Individual Training. The Machine Gun Class were the only unlucky ones in this respect as their training necessitated them remaining at Calcutta, but most of these however succeeded in getting a short time in the hills.

On May 3 started what has come to be known as the "8.42," because at this hour the Regimental horn sounds daily to summon every man of the Regiment to ten minutes musketry. The benefit of this daily handling of arms and looking over the sights has, we think, been shown in the results of the one Company

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and Band and Buglers who have so far fired at Maymyo. No doubt the wonderful conditions, both of range and weather, have had a great deal to do with the immense improvement on last year. At any rate the marksmen have been multiplied by five and the first class shots increased in proportion, only one third-class shot being so far registered.

July 1st saw the Regiment reorganised into a Headquarter Wing, three Rifle Companies and a Machine Gun Company.

The programme of training which had been staged for our attraction on arrival in Burma really staggered us, especially as it was found that the Machine Gun Company had to march out to camp for the concentration four days after our arrival in Maymyo, this necessitated them firing their machine gun course before leaving Calcutta and to Jafferpore they went on October 1. The horrors of this camp can be better imagined than described, torrential rains turned the entire ground into a quagmire, luckily we succeeded in getting beds for the tents and the men at night stepped out of a sea of mud unto the comparative dryness of their beds. In spite of this disadvantage, however, the firing was quite satisfactory, considering the very limited training.

On the eve of Waterloo Day, we had a most successful All-Ranks ball at the Dalhousie Institute in Calcutta. There was a tremendous crowd and the ball-room was full, right up to the end.

On Waterloo Day swimming contests were held in the Calcutta baths, which helped to cool the heated brows after the night before. The inter-company officers' race, which meant that every officer in the



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Regiment, in spite of protests, had to swim, was a great success, and nobody was actually drowned, although one or two only just reached the shallow end in time.

On Nonneboschen Day we held the Inter-Company team sports and two days later a farewell all-ranks ball, again in the Dalhousie Institute, which eclipsed the Waterloo one.

On November 21, we were relieved in the Fort, Calcutta, by the Loyal Regiment, and on the 22nd we set sail for Burma to relieve the Manchester Regiment at Maymyo and Mandalay. This move forms the subject of an article in this CHRONICLE and, therefore, calls for no comment here except that it is interesting to recall that from 1804 to 1816 the 52nd had a second Battalion which, in the latter year became the 96th Foot, subsequently 2nd Battalion the Manchester Regiment, whose place we were now taking (52nd War Diary, April 10, 1918).

This year has not been a successful one for the Regiment in the world of sport. The hockey team deserve great credit for their efforts in winning the Kaivan hockey cup, but we have to remember that this was a junior league. Our football team however was a real disappointment; they played hard, but were undoubtedly outclassed. On the other hand our boxing team covered themselves with glory and ended up by winning the district tournament, being victorious in every weight except one, winning both their special contests, and Pte. Andrews was adjudged the most scientific boxer in the tournament.

The 52nd Gymnastic team is still going very strong indeed, and the show they gave at the Calcutta Tattoo was even better than their previous efforts, which is

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FORT WILLIAM, CALCUTTA, FROM THE AIR.

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saying a good deal, at any rate they now do wonderful feats over a horse which, I understand, has been raised to a greater height than that used at Olympia. Wootten, the founder and trainer of this great team, has unfortunately been seized as an instructor at the Army School of Physical Training, India. We hope, however, that his stay there will not be a long one and that he will soon return to us again.

Unfortunately we have lately lost about a hundred men on discharge, transfer to the reserve and to the 43rd, and we regret to say that another 90 or so will have left by the end of the trooping season, amongst these are a number of our best all-round athletes and boxers. However, we hope that we are succeeding in bringing on " the young entry," and that we may get some equally good talent amongst our drafts from the 43rd. On the other hand the number of applications to extend are increased and we have had to apply to Records for additional vacancies.

In addition, Eagle, Conant and Stephens have gone home on posting to the 43rd. In Rupert Conant we have lost by far our best polo player and Martin Stephens and he always kept large numbers of ponies, the want of which will be sadly felt in our polo team.

Maymyo and Mandalay will, as far as can be seen, be our home for the next three years, and, although quiet after Calcutta, will be a good healthy life; we shall succeed in making our own amusements and it will give us a chance of replenishing our dilapidated finances. We hope to be able to give a good account of the doings of the Regiment, both in military and sporting spheres in Burma when the next letter for the CHRONICLE comes to be written. 52ND.

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# RECORDS OF THE DEPOT,
## 1929

### ROLL OF OFFICERS—DECEMBER 31, 1929

*Major Commanding.*

J. J. Powell.

*Captains.*

L. W. Giles, M.C.
D. C. Colvill, M.C.

*Lieutenants.*

M. H. S. Last.
E. C. Richards.

*Adjutant.*

Lieutenant J. P. A. G. Graham.

*Quartermaster.*

Lieutenant C. T. Moody.

*Warrant Officers.*

Regimental Sergeant-Major H. Lay, D.C.M., M.M.
Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant H. Benford, M.M.

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## Strength of Depot, December 31, 1929

| | |
|---|---|
| Officers | 7 |
| Warrant Officers | 3 |
| Sergeants | 10 |
| Corporals | 12 |
| Buglers | 3 |
| Privates | 145 |
| Total | 180 |

## Increase and Decrease
## January 1 to December 31, 1929

*Increase.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Joined as Recruits | 209 |
| Joined from Desertion | 1 |
| Transfers received | — |
| From Home Battalion | 37 |
| From 2nd Battalion in India | 60 |
| From Supernumerary List | 1 |
| Total | 308 |

*Decrease.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Died | 1 |
| Discharged | 45 |
| Deserted | 1 |
| To Army Reserve | 44 |
| To Home Battalion | 235 |
| To 2nd Battalion in India | 4 |
| To Bucks Battalion | 1 |
| Total | 331 |

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## DEPOT LETTER, 1929

DEAR EDITOR,

Our 1928 letter should have concluded with the record of Bayley's return to the East and with the arrival in his stead of Richards, fresh from six months' " he manning " on the " roof of the world." Having got that off my chest, I feel I can start on 1929 with a clear conscience. Of changes in personnel there have been the usual batch. Giles relieved Smyth in command of the Training Company in May and fortunately fills up the deficiency in hockey and cricket which Smyth's departure would otherwise have left. Before we leave the subject of Smyth we must congratulate him wholeheartedly in getting into the Staff College. He has thoroughly deserved his success and we are only glad for our own sakes that he did not do it before and so have his time at the Depot cut short.

During March, the Depot suffered a great loss by the departure to civil life and a hostelry in the Cowley Road of R.S.M. Whitton. He has left many friends behind him and we are very glad that he has settled down so close and still keeps in touch with the Regiment. He was closely followed by R.Q.M.S. Pallett, who departed to Aylesbury in June as Quartermaster of the Buckinghamshire Battalion. In their places C.S.M. Lay was promoted and sent from the 43rd, C.Q.M.S. Benford, already at the Depot was promoted to R.Q.M.S. while C.Q.M.S. Woodford was sent here vice Benford. As regards other changes, the operation of the six years' rule has resulted in a

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large proportion of the senior members of the Depot staff, and a good leavening of the junior members, being men only recently returned from the 52nd.

After a great recruiting burst early in the year, things slackened off until we are now getting the average of only one squad every two months. At the beginning of the year we copied a large number of other Depots by adopting the method of calling each squad after selected battle honours of the Regiment according to the month in which it is formed. It is undoubtedly much more interesting for a squad to be called Kut-el-Amara Platoon than simply March Platoon.

There have been no changes in training or organization during the year except a few minor changes in Regimental drill due to Light Infantry at last being recognized in Infantry Training, and the firing of musketry at Churn Camp. This summer, all recruits who have reached their weapon training period in the summer have gone off to camp near East Ilsley on the Berkshire Downs.

I don't know how the standard of shooting compares with that on the 30 yards' range, but the platoon undoubtedly benefits in other ways and probably enjoys a little camping if the weather is seasonable. This year it has been more than seasonable.

The new institutes are now in full swing and are a great success. Certainly the Library rivals the Officers' Mess for comfort, while no complaints have been heard from the Corporals' room. The canteen has changed over from male to female staff, so far fortunately without any Barrack matrimony resulting.

We were lucky enough to have a lantern lecture on

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"Nepal" given us by General Bruce in February. He was staying at Balliol, and we gathered that even his strong head had been put to the test the night before, but in spite of it he gave us an intensely interesting account of the history of Nepal illustrated with excellent slides.

We made the acquaintance of the new G.O.C.-in-C., in the Spring, who came down and inspected us, and was apparently quite satisfied that the Depot was not going to the dogs.

The cricket week was the usual success, the weather being kind to us again. Regimental Day at the Depot was well attended, and large numbers of people came on the Monday as well. The dance went with a swing except that we chose to hold it, as always, on the coldest night in summer, and the wretched band suffered considerably from cold in spite of oil stoves. Several P.T. displays have been given at fêtes during the summer and seem to have been very popular. In two cases appreciation took the tangible form of sending a cheque to the funds of the Regimental Association.

The crowning achievement of the year was the second tattoo produced at the Depot. A full account appears on another page, so one need only remark here that everyone threw their heart and soul into it and it went down very well indeed. We thought it at least as good as, if not better than, the 1926 effort, but of course those 1926 veterans who saw it said "quite a good show, but not up to the vintage of 1926." We must leave it to the crowd to judge, and congratulate ourselves that we have at least maintained the reputation that a Tattoo produced by the Depot is well worth going a considerable distance to see.

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The death of General White at a nursing home in Reading during August came as a great shock to us, and a representative party of officers, warrant officers, and non-commissioned officers attended the funeral at Mortimer.

October saw the arrival of Graham to fulfil the duties of " adjutant and stud groom," and Theobalds, after a spasm of leave, returned " across the briny."

Cub hunting was rather spoilt by the very hard state of the " going," and it was not till late on in the season that General Miller could get the hounds and horses out. However this state of affairs was not to last as the remaining two months of the year were nothing but a succession of gales, and rain storms with " heavy going " and " wet breeches " as the result. Mention must be made of Last's wedding at Delapré Abbey on October 16th to Miss Uthwatt, at which a large party of officers and sergeants were present. He certainly did us very well, and though the time-honoured remarks were to be heard he managed to escape with his bride unscathed.

Colvill goes back to India, or rather Burma, in February, and Baddeley has arrived here to relieve him, we are sorry to say without an aeroplane, though perhaps as he is a member of National Flying Services we may get a joy ride occasionally. We hear that Bernard and Meade are coming up to hunt with us in January and February and so we hope that in some way they may take the place of the " Light Brigade " in Sanderson, Crosbie and Wynter, who are now all in India.

We were very sorry to lose Mr. Carmody, our barrack warden, who died suddenly after an operation

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in the Radcliffe Infirmary. He was here in that capacity for nine years and had in that time become one of the established members of this Depot.

We hear the 43rd are going to make another concerted effort on the Athletic championships this year, and we wish them a little more luck than they had last year. Graham is still available to help them, and perhaps they may go one better than in 1928.

We regret to note the death of Colonel Stokes, who was for many years Medical Officer of these barracks. He had been a great friend to all and will be missed by many. Mention must also be made of the death of Willie Ashhurst, known to everybody as the "squire." He was a great friend of the Regiment and a great supporter of all institutions in the neighbourhood. He was always to be seen where the "hounds" were in the neighbourhood, and the South Oxfordshire Hunt will miss him as one who had helped them in times of trouble. Among his many activities he was President of the Prisoners of War Association, in which rôle he did wonderful work during the war. We shall miss him, but his name will always be remembered here.

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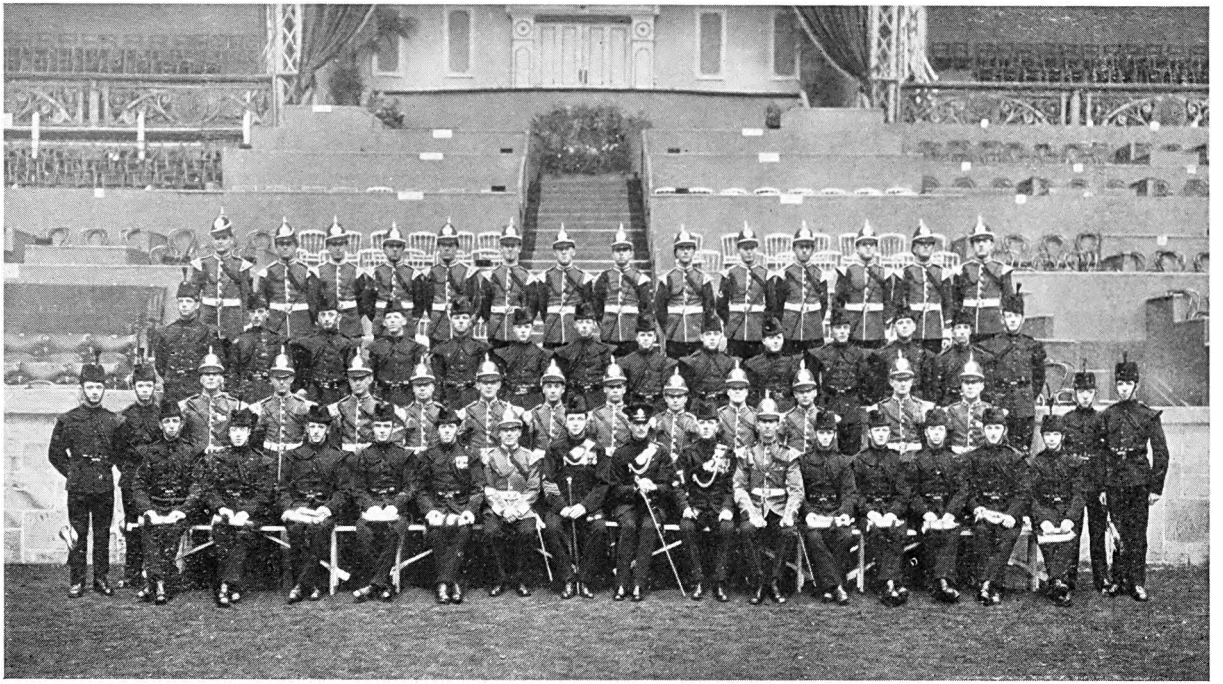

ROYAL TOURNAMENT, OLYMPIA, 1929.
Massed Buglers of the 13th Light Infantry, 43rd Light Infantry, 60th Rifles and The Rifle Brigade.

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## THE REGIMENTAL DINNER, 1929.

LIST of Officers who attended the Regimental Dinner held at the Hotel Metropole, Northumberland Avenue, London, S.W.1 on Friday, June 21st, 1929 :

Lieut. M. M. Alston-Roberts-West.
Captain E. L. O. Baddeley.
Captain C. W. H. Bailie.
Lieut.-Colonel C. S. Baines, D.S.O.
Colonel J. A. Ballard.
Captain W. L. Barnard.
Lieut.-Colonel A. J. N. Bartlett, D.S.O.
Colonel A. G. Bayley, C.B.E., D.S.O.
Lieut. Hon. C. B. A. Bernard.
Lieut. C. W. P. Branson.
Major R. J. Brett, D.S.O.
Captain E. T. C. Bower.
Captain F. W. C. Chippindale.
Colonel P. T. Clark.
Colonel E. R. Clayton, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Captain D. C. Colvill, M.C.
Lieut. R. T. Conant.
Major-General H. R. Davies, C.B.
Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Day, M.C.
Lieut. R. H. Doyne.
Brigadier-General A. J. F. Eden, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Lieut. J. S. R. Edmunds.
Colonel W. H. M. Freestun, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Colonel C. H. Frith, C.B.E.
Captain L. W. Giles, M.C.
Lieut. J. P. A. G. Graham.
Major-General Sir John Hanbury-Williams, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., C.M.G.
Major C. F. Henley.
Brigadier-General C. G. Higgins, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Air Commodore F. V. Holt, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Lieut. J. B. Jarvis.
Lieut. J. E. D. Kilburn.
Brigadier-General F. G. Lamotte, C.M.G.
Colonel E. A. E. Lethbridge, C.M.G., D.S.O.

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Lieut. M. H. S. Last.
F. C. L. A. Lowndes, Esq., M.C.
Lieut.-Colonel R. C. Luard.
Captain J. W. Meade.
Lieut.-Colonel G. S. F. Napier.
Colonel W. Owen.
Lieut.-Colonel B. C. T. Paget, D.S.O., M.C.
Colonel C. Parr, C.B.E.
Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Pollock, D.S.O.
Colonel L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy, C.B., D.S.O.
Major J. L. Portal, D.S.O.
Major J. J. Powell.
Lieut. L. R. Randall.
Lieut. E. C. Richards.
Lieut. T. G. D. Rowley.
Lieut.-Colonel H. L. Ruck-Keene, D.S.O., O.B.E.
Major L. F. Scott.
Captain S. C. P. Slattery.
Lieut. A. B. Slessor.
Captain H. E. F. Smyth, M.C.
Brigadier F. H. Stapleton, C.M.G.
Lieut.-Colonel R. Stephens.
Lieut. J. A. Theobalds.
Captain T. Tyrwhitt-Drake, M.C.
Major H. F. Whinney, D.S.O.
Lieut. T. J. W. Winterton.
Captain T. E. Withington, A.F.C.

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## WEAPON TRAINING, 1929.

### First Battalion

The annual range course was the same as for 1928 and as far as is known will continue unaltered for about five years.

The results were as follows :

### Trained Men's Classification.

| | Rifle. | Lewis Gun. | Special A.A. Sections. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Marksmen | 123 | 40 | 8 |
| 1st Class Shots | 51 | 42 | 9 |
| 2nd Class Shots | 103 | 26 | 11 |
| 3rd Class Shots | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Not Fully Exercised | 17 | 15 | 0 |

### Recruits' Classification.

| | Rifle. | Lewis Gun. |
|---|---|---|
| 1st Class Recruit Shot and Gunners | 65 | 111 |
| 2nd " " " " | 79 | 37 |
| 3rd " " " " | 7 | 3 |

*Best Combined Shot amongst Sergeants and Lce.-Sergeants.*
Sgt. Harcourt, 101 points.

*Best Combined Shot amongst Corporals and Privates.*
Cpl. Wood, 81 points.

| | *Company Shots.* | |
|---|---|---|
| Letter " A " Company | Sgt. Harcourt | 101 points. |
| Letter " B " Company | Sgt. Holloway | 95 points. |
| Letter " C " Company | Sgt. Dilley | 91 points. |

### Regimental Rifle Meeting.

This meeting was practically the same as last year with the addition of a match for Lewis Gun pairs and

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an A.A. Lewis Gun match. The conditions were modelled as far as possible on those of the Southern Command meeting in order that the Regiment should get as much practice as they could owing to the shortage of ammunition.

Results :

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Match | 1 Class " A " Individual | Pte. Smith '638. |
| ,, | 2 ,, ,, | Sgt. Blackall. |
| ,, | 3 ,, ,, | C.S.M. Chantrey. |
| ,, | 4 Regimental Championship. | Sgt. Blackall. |
| ,, | 5 The Company Shield | H.Q. Wing. |
| ,, | 6 M.G. Platoon Competition. | 3 Platoon. |
| ,, | 7 The Lea Cup | Sergeants' Mess. |
| ,, | 8 Platoon Rifle Cup | 6 Platoon. |
| ,, | 9 Group Rifle Match | 3 Group. |
| ,, | 10 Anti-Aircraft Match | Letter " C " Company. |
| ,, | 11 Lewis Gun Pairs | Lce.-Cpls. Wilkes and Wells. |
| ,, | 12 Officers' Match | Hon. C. B. A. Bernard tied with Lieut. E. Smith. |

The Regimental Championship of the Southern Command Weapon Training meeting went to the 60th who are in the Tidworth Brigade, while we had to be content with third place.

Lce.-Cpl. Malins got the top score in the Command in the Individual Rapid, and Sgt. Blackall was third in the Revolver Aggregate. In the Team Matches, Lce.-Cpl. Lambden and Pte. Bradbury were first equal and Lce.-Cpls. Wilkes and Wells third in the Lewis Gun Pairs. In the Revolver Match, we were third, being just beaten by the S.A.S., Netheravon. Lieut. Graham did a wonderful shoot getting only one point less than the revolver champion at Bisley firing the same practices. We did quite well in the Company knockout competition, but unfortunately twice two

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of our companies met "A" Company, the last survivors were eventually beaten by the 60th, who supplied both the finalists. We were third in the Rapid Fire match, and were in the first six in the Officers and Young Soldiers' matches.

## Second Battalion

Last year it was impossible to include the 1928–29 weapon training results in the 1929 Chronicle, owing to the fact that we did not finish our classification until well into the New Year. This year it will be the same as regards the 1929–30 results, as most of our musketry will be carried out in December at Maymyo with the overflow and casuals probably carrying on into February, 1930.

The reason of this is that the Musketry camp at Jafferpore is only possible for firing between October and March, whereas most regiments in India are able to complete their annual firing before the rains.

In Burmah we shall probably catch up by firing our 1930–31 course in April or May two months after we complete our firing for 1929–30.

It is interesting to compare the weapon training results of 1927–28 fired in Chakrata with those of 1928–29 fired in Calcutta.

In the former place, our rifles and light automatic were practically unserviceable, in the latter the Regiment has been re-armed.

The range at Chakrata was difficult. The firing was downhill, and the high altitude and atmospheric conditions affected the elevation.

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The range at Jafferpore is good although the light is not suitable for firing before 8 a.m. in the morning.

*Musketry.*

| 1927–28 | | 1928–29 |
|---|---|---|
| Marksmen .. .. .. | 57 | 90 |
| 1st Class Shots .. .. .. | 198 | 171 |
| 2nd ,, ,, .. .. | 394 | 356 |
| 3rd ,, ,, .. .. | 19 | 7 |

*Light Automatic.*

| 1927–28 | | 1928–29 |
|---|---|---|
| 1st Class Shots .. .. .. | 20 | 49 |
| 2nd ,, ,, .. .. .. | 72 | 77 |
| Unqualified .. .. .. | 19 | 7 |

*Revolver.*

| 1927–28 | | | 1928–29 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Officers.* | *O.R.'s* | | *Officers.* | *O.R.'s.* |
| Marksmen | 6 | Nil | Qualified | 22 47 |
| 1st Class Shots | 10 | 11 | Failed | Nil 7 |
| 2nd ,, ,, | 9 | 24 | | |
| Failed | Nil. | 11 | | |

Battle practices were impossible at Chakrata, but all Companies fired these practices at Jafferpore.

Best Shots for the 1928–29 season were as follows :

*Rifle*

Warrant Officers and Sergeants : C.Q.M.S. J. Woodford, M.M. H.Q. Wing, 106.

Corporals and Privates : Lce.-Cpl. J. Revell, " A " Company, 99.

*Light Antomatic*

Sergeants and Corporals, Cpl. T. Kirby, " C " Company, 171.

Lce.-Cpls. and Privates : Pte. H. Boyce, " B " Company, 174.

*Machine Gun.*

| 1927–28. | | 1928–29. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Marksmen .. | 26 | Marksmen .. | 55 |
| 1st Class .. | 14 | 1st Class .. | 9 |
| Qualified .. | 20 | Qualified .. | 3 |
| Unqualified .. | Nil. | Unqualified .. | 2 |
| Average .. | 270·54 | Average .. | 352.69 |

Result of A.R.A. Competition Machine Gun Cup 8th.

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## SIGNALLING, 1929

### Second Battalion

There have been no changes in equipment this year, but our war establishment has been lowered from 38 to 32, and the re-organization on the three Company basis has somewhat altered our tactics.

We have trained the largest class of recruit signallers (twenty) since the war. We had eight N.C.O.'s or prospective N.C.O.'s, who passed a local course run by district.

Training was carried out through the hot weather and the general standard was considerably improved. We went to the hills for the last six weeks, where classification was carried out, and this classification was satisfactory.

Satisfactory training in the field was a difficulty. The only area within reach was the Calcutta Maidan which is almost featureless. This will be made good during the cold weather in Burma.

The great difficulty during collective training is mules, these have to be obtained from a transport unit, which means that they are unused to British troops, and generally unused to being used for pack transport.

The training season has been hampered by lack of suitable ground, but has been otherwise satisfactory.



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# ATHLETICS, 1929

## First Battalion

After our successful season last year which terminated in our team being second in the Army Championships, we started early and concentrated to a great extent on the new field events which had been brought in for this year's contest, namely Throwing the Discus, the Hammer and the Javelin ; and, considering we had really practically no experience, with the able assistance of C.S.M.I. Bennett we managed, however, to get on fairly well, but in these events it is a question of time and practice, and one cannot master all the little intricacies in one year. The Regimental Individual Sports were held on May 21st and the results show that we certainly had got talent. West's 100 yds. and 220 yds. being a Regimental record, as was Bernard's " quarter mile," which was a truly magnificent race, and being on a bad track the time was excellent.

The full results are given below :

*Throwing the Javelin.*—1, L. C. Tonge ; 2, L. S. Millett ; 3 Pte. Lapper. 113 ft. 4 ins.

100 *Yards.*—1, Lieut. West ; 2, Cpl. Walters ; 3, L. S. Millett. 10 1/5 secs.

100 *Yards under 2 years.*—1, Pte. Thompson ; 2, Pte. Smith 51 ; 3, Pte. Peterson. 11 2/5 secs.

*Boys Handicap* 100 *Yards.*—1, Boy Rayner ; 2, Boy Woodcock ; 3, Boy Tipton.

880 *Yards.*—1, Lieut. Graham ; 2, Pte. Vanner ; 3, L. S. Neal. 2 mins. 10 secs.

880 *Yards under 2 years.*—1, Pte. Upstone ; 2, Pte. Clarke 3, Pte. Mathews. 2 mins. 14 3/5 secs.

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*Pole Jump.*—1, Cpl. Smart; 2, Pte. Kendall; 3, Pte. Stowe. 9ft. 4 ins.

220 *Yards* (down hill).—1, Lieut. West; 2, Lieut. Bernard; 3, Cpl. Walters. 22 2/5 secs.

220 *Yards under 2 years.*—1, Pte. Thompson; 2, Pte. Smith 51; 3, Pte. Drummond. 25 2/5 secs.

*Throwing the Discus.*—1, Lieut. West; 2, Pte. Court; 3, Sgt. Harcourt. 93 ft. 8 ins.

120 *Yards Hurdles.*—1, L. S. Futter; 2, Pte. Berrow; 3, Pte. Coombes. 18 1/5 secs.

440 *Yards Challenge Belt.*—1, Lieut. Bernard; 2, Lieut. Rowley; 3, L. S. Futter. 52 3/5 secs.

440 *Yards under 2 years.*—1, Pte. Clarke; 2, Pte. Thompson; 3, Pte. Drummond. 59 1/5 secs.

*Long Jump.*—1, Sgt. Harcourt; 2, Lieut. Graham; 3, L. C. Brooks. 19 ft. 11 ins.

*Three Miles.*—1, Pte. Upstone; 2, Lieut. Graham; 3, Bdsm. Busby. 16 mins. 18 secs.

*Putting the Shot.*—1, Lieut. West; 2, Lieut. Jarvis; 3, Lieut. Graham. 34 ft. 6 ins.

*High Jump.*—1, Lieut. West; Sgt. Harcourt; 3, Lieut. Graham. 5 ft. 3 ins.

*One Mile Challenge Belt.*—1, Bgr. Mathews; 2, Lieut. Graham; 3, Bdsm. Busby. 4 mins. 50 secs.

*Throwing the Hammer.*—1, Lieut. Jarvis; 2, Pte. Brann; 3, Pte. Sullivan. 89 ft. 3 ins.

On Saturday, the 25th, we held our Inter-Company Team Sports, and after some exciting racing, they were won again by "X" Company, while the Machine Gun Company beat "B" for third place.

Our Open Mile was won by Stoker Whitelocke of the Royal Navy, who beat his "confrere," Stoker Watts quite easily in the not very fast time of 4 mins. 53 secs. At the conclusion of the day the prizes for both days were presented by Mrs. Day and the Regimental Sports for 1929 were over.

We now turned our attention seriously to training for Aldershot, and by the aid of several matches and the Southern Command Area Sports we hoped to be a fit team by July 9th.

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Accordingly a week after we took a team up to " the Shop " where Ames runs the Athletics, and after some interesting racing, we defeated them by a nice margin. Admittedly they were short of two of their men, but even so it would have been a close contest and may we hope to keep it as an annual fixture anyway for the next year or so. Our next event was the Area Championships and with six teams in we came out easy winners from the 4th Bn. Royal Tank Corps at Bovington. A week later we had a most interesting match with the L.A.C. and the R.B. & R.M. The L.A.C. were naturally a stronger side, but some good racing resulted and we defeated the " Navy team " with the L.A.C. a comfortable first. West was a good second to C. T. Cohen in the 100 yds., and Bernard gave Roger Leigh Wood a good race in the ¼ mile ; Graham was second in the ½ mile and 1 mile in quite good time considering the very soft state of the track.

We had one more match with the Navy and Marines, before going up to Aldershot (held at Parkhurst), and again we defeated them with excellent performances on both sides ; Cpl. Smart in this match jumped 10 ft. in the Pole Jump which is also a new Regimental Record.

We arrived at Aldershot a couple of days before the championships, but already bad luck had begun to dog us, Lce.-Cpl. Mathews having broken down ten days previously, and although we tried everything, there was little hope that he would be able to do anything. Then on the first day Graham tore a muscle in the " three miles " and was unable to compete again. These two casualties needless to say lost us many

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points which we had hoped to gain in the ½ mile, 1 mile and 3 miles and of course spoilt any chances that we might have had.

Both our Pole jumpers injured themselves, but we managed to get second place in this event. We were third in the sprints to the Dorsets and the York and Lancs and I think we were a little stale. The mile relay was a wonderful race all the way with the Dorsets, and although Bernard ran his quarter in 15 2/5 secs., he was unable to make up a 4 yds. deficit on Lieut. Ward and again we had to be content with second place.

Sgt. Harcourt jumped a very fine 22 ft. 3½ ins. in the Long Jump, but otherwise our field events were only fair and will need improvement for next year. Eventually the York and Lancs won the trophy again and we finished fourth. I think we can fairly say that without our bad luck we might have given the Dorsets, who finished second, a good run for their medals; however, no doubt we shall try again next year and maybe be blessed with a little better luck.

The season finished with the Individual Championships and the Inter-Service Championships a few days later. In the latter we were represented by Boileau, Bernard and Sgt. Harcourt, who were third respectively in the 120 yds. hurdles, the quarter mile and the long jump in the Individual Championships. Jarvis also received his Army badge for being third in Throwing the Hammer, and I'm sure we may all congratulate him after the trouble he has taken.

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## CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING, 1928–29

### First Battalion

We commenced this branch of sport in December with two races for young soldiers under two and one years' service respectively in order to find out young talent. Most of the older members of the team had finished their time and we were anxious to produce a young team that would improve and last for some time. We started training with 25 and as the season progressed we gradually reduced the number until we had 17 or 18 to train for the Southern Command race in March.

We were at a disadvantage as regards country owing to the amount of cultivation and roads in the vicinity, and the consequence is that we have to do a considerable amount of road running, which although it may develop one's speed, yet is not the same thing and tends not to develop the muscles to the same extent.

However, we pegged away at it, and with long walks on Sunday mornings we soon began to get into some sort of shape.

Competition in this neighbourhood is not very strong and on all occasions except one, when we ran a weak team, we had no difficulty in overcoming our neighbouring teams, the Air Force at Calshot, the Navy and Marines and our local club the Trojans.

Bugler Matthews, Pte. Keep, Lce.-Cpl. Taylor and Pte. Adams were all running well, and with Lieut. Graham and Bdsm. Busby, who could not do much

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owing to football and hockey activities, we hoped to put up a good show.

The Regimental race came off a week before the Southern Command race, and it was won easily by "X" Company, whose whole team with the exception of two are in the Regimental Team. Bugler Matthews was first home, followed by Pte. Keep and Lieut. Graham, with Lce.-Cpl. Taylor and Pte. Adams next. The M.G. Company were second and "B" Company third.

The Southern Command race was held at Tidworth in boiling hot weather over 7½ miles, mostly downland but with some rather rough road running.

We hoped to be in the first three, but we knew that we could not hope to win against the 3rd Div. Signals who are very strong with such men as Sgt. Cotterill and Lce.-Cpl. Bradley. Our old friends the Worcesters had come into the Command so we expected another battle royal with them for second place.

Actually we were beaten by the Signals and Worcesters, and also the Cheshire Regiment, and so were relegated to fourth place out of eleven.

It was rather a disappointment, and if our last three men had managed to pull up a bit, I think we would have beaten second and third, as our first nine men ran really well, and then I fear there was rather a gap to the all-important next three.

However, we have a young team and the majority of its members have another three years to complete, so we can hope for better things next year.

Taken as a whole the season was a success, and I think enjoyed by most anyway. We were unable to enter the Isle of Wight Championship, as we were away at Tidworth.

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## CRICKET, 1929

### First Battalion

We had quite a fair cricket season this year, the results being: Played 12, won 7, lost 4, drawn 1.

Cricket in the Island consists chiefly of afternoon matches against local teams, two or three of whom are quite good sides. We also play other Regiments at Portsmouth on the United Services ground there. These latter games are always worth the time, if only for the pleasure of playing on a really good wicket for once in a while.

The Regimental XI this year has been a fair all-round side, but we tremble to think what it will be like next year, when we shall have lost Graham, Sgt. Millett, and Bandsman Busby, whilst we are still feeling the effects of having lost Giles and C.Q.M.S. Dudley last year.

Graham's departure to the Depot deprives us of perhaps the best bowler the Regiment has ever had, whilst the loss of Sgt. Millett means that our best all rounder has gone.

Next season we are going to cut down the number of Regimental matches, and concentrate more on Company games, in order to discover new talent which is badly needed. We are fairly well off for batsmen, but lack bowlers, whilst we shall very soon be needing a new wicket-keeper, for C.Q.M.S. Bull, although still stopping them well, cannot be expected to go on for ever. Our fielding was poor to start with, but

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definitely improved towards the end of the season.

Here are the results of the chief matches played, together with a few comments on each.

*Versus Ventnor at Ventnor* (*won*).

Regiment 168 (Sub. 45, Hamersley 29, Mackinson 27, Millett 26); Ventnor 152 (Mackinson 5 for 36).

We fielded a weak side, but just managed to win, thanks to a timely innings of 45 by a substitute, whom we gathered on the ground, having arrived one short. Bdsm. Mackinson bowled his slows very well.

*Versus Newport Trades at Parkhurst* (*won*).

Regiment 170 (Hamersley 49, Smith 32); Newport Trades 79 (Millett 4 for 16).

Very little opposition was encountered in this match, which needs no comments.

*Versus R.A. at Portsmouth* (*won*).

R.A. 131 (Graham 8 for 24); Regiment 150 for 2 wickets (West 65 not out, Millett 63 not out).

Graham bowled magnificently, having all the batsmen at sea with his "in-swingers." West and Sgt. Millett, after a shaky start, hit off the runs fairly comfortably.

*Versus Northwood at Parkhurst* (*lost*).

Northwood 147 (Graham 4 for 42); Regiment 53 (Manning 16 not out).

The Regiment collapsed badly against some not particularly good bowling, only Pte. Manning showing any confidence. Our fielding was poor.

*Versus Welch Regiment at Portsmouth* (*won*).

Welch Regiment 63 (Millett 5 for 9); Regiment 205 (Bull 72, Millett 52).

Sgt. Millett bowled exceptionally well, making them

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break both ways and clean bowled most of his victims. C.Q.M.S. Bull had a field day when he went in to bat, and hit the bowling all over the ground.

*Versus United Banks at Parkhurst* (*drawn*).

United Banks 159 (West 6 for 24); Regiment 112 for 8 wickets. (West 32, Randall 23, Smith 22).

The United Banks were a good side, on tour from London. Our regular bowlers were away, and we were rather lucky to do as well as we did, under the circumstances.

*Versus Welch Regiment at Parkhurst* (*won*).

Regiment 73 (Hamersley 18); Welch Regiment 59 (Graham 7 for 25).

This was the return match and played in most appalling weather. Graham bowled brilliantly, being on for 19 overs without a rest. Bdsm. Busby, at the other end, bowled very steadily and took the remaining three wickets.

*Versus Newport at Newport* (*lost*).

Regiment 130 (Hamersley 53); Newport 132 for 3 wickets.

This match unfortunately clashed with an Athletic fixture, and we could only produce a scratch side. Hamersley batted very well, but our bowling was horribly weak.

*Versus R.A.O.C., Hilsea, at Hilsea* (*lost*).

Regiment 77 (Randall 42); R.A.O.C. 79 (Graham 5 for 37).

A very exciting match. We gave a poor batting

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display, only Randall reaching double figures. He had an excellent knock, hitting the bowling all over the place.

We then got nine R.A.O.C. wickets down for 59. Their last two men, however, just managed to get the runs before one of them was clean bowled.

*Versus Newport Trades at Newport* (*won*).

Newport Trades 124 (Alexander 5 for 24); Regiment 162 for 6 wickets (West 44, Manning 38, Boileau 32 not out).

Pte. Alexander bowled very well in this match, after which we had no difficulty in hitting off the runs.

*Versus St. Helens at St. Helens* (*lost*).

St. Helens 197; Regiment 87 (Randall 28, Manning 19).

This was played at the end of Battalion Training and after some strenuous night operations, with the result as shown.

*Versus Dudley Wanderers at Parkhurst* (*won*).

Regiment 109 (Manning 52); Wanderers 101 (Graham 5 for 20).

This match was against a definitely strong touring side. Pte. Manning batted extraordinarily well and made half our total himself.

The Wanderers with 5 wickets down only wanted 20 more runs, but great bowling by Graham, coupled with some excellent fielding caused a collapse and we just won.

Here are the leading batting and bowling averages for Regimental matches.

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## Batting.

Minimum number of innings — 6.

| Name. | No of Innings. | Times not out. | Runs. | Highest Score. | Average. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sgt. Millett | 6 | 1 | 168 | 63 not out. | 33.6 |
| Lieut. West | 6 | 1 | 154 | 65 not out. | 30.8 |
| Pte. Manning | 9 | 1 | 176 | 52 | 22.6 |
| Lieut. Hamersley | 9 | — | 169 | 53 | 18.8 |

## Bowling.

| Name. | Approximate No. of Overs bowled. | Runs. | Wickets. | Average. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lieut. Graham | 89 | 166 | 27 | 6.2 |
| Sgt. Millett | 52 | 125 | 14 | 8.9 |
| Bdsm. Busby | 55 | 137 | 9 | 15.2 |
| Pte. Alexander | 70 | 212 | 12 | 17.7 |

## Company Cricket.

Not having a ground since 1924 at Shorncliffe, Company cricket was an unknown quantity, and its revival was very welcome.

On paper "B" and "X" were the favourites, by reason of having more individuals who had appeared in Regimental games, if anything "B" being first choice, having Graham, Randall and Sgt. Millett. "B" received a shock from "A" and were only saved by time.

The final was eventually fought out between "B" and "X," and thanks to a good effort by Randall in the first innings, and Graham in the second, "B" won very comfortably. "X" sadly needed bowlers.

Results of matches were as follows :—

1st Round. "A" beat "C."
"B" „ "Z."

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Semi-Final. | "B" beat | "A." |
| | "X" „ | "M.G." |
| Final. | "B" beat | "X." |

## Second Battalion

(*Cantinued from last Volume*)

The last article on cricket took us up to Christmas 1928. Owing to the seasons being in some ways reversed in Calcutta, the contributions for the Chronicle have to be despatched in the middle of the cricket season.

For the benefit of those who did not read the last account, it will be best to recapitulate a few of the difficulties under which the Regimental team have laboured.

Not that it is any way desirable to judge the success of the season by the number of victories gained—far from it. Our victories have been few, but the games have all been enjoyable.

The cricket season in Calcutta starts in October, and goes on to February.

Unfortunately, almost on the day the season opens, so does musketry begin, with the result that two Companies, at least, go off to Camp for three weeks and, in consequence, a representative side is generally difficult to obtain. For exactly the same reason, and with precisely the same result, after Christmas the Companies go by pairs to a training camp for ten days, while machine gunners and signallers repair to a concentration camp for a month.

It is no good complaining, and at the moment prospects for the future are brighter as we have

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received re-inforcements in Paris and Eyston who, in reputation, should be of great value, but who (this is written in March) have in their brief sojourn with us quite failed to find their form.

We are, potentially and morally, stronger by their presence as they both possess blazers, while most of us have not even a cap to make us look like cricketers.

On January 6th, 1929, to help cement the " Entente Cordiale," which Christmas had done so much to foster between ourselves and the Royal Navy, represented by H.M.S. *Emerald*, a cricket match was arranged.

No naval officers were available to play on that day; History does not relate why, but in any case a team of " Matelots " duly appeared.

Thanks chiefly to Cpl. Dainty, and Lce.-Cpl. Skelding's bowling, we dismissed them for 70, and thanks entirely to Baddeley (69) and Thorne (20) we made 146.

The next game was on January 10th against La Martinière School. They were too good for us and beat us. They scored 168 while we could raise but 92, of which C.S.M. Bailey, D.C.M., made 26. On January 12, 1929, we had a return match with the Cossipore Artillery. This ended in a draw in our favour. Naylor, Thorne, and Cpl. Dainty being the best scorers for us.

The next game was on January 27, when, owing to an error an XI had not been put in Orders and a scratch side was produced at the last moment. The match was an excellent one—the Regiment winning by 5 runs just on time.

On January 31, 1929, we played the D.C.L.I.

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"B," "D," and Headquarter Companies came in from camp on the morning having started at 3.30 a.m., but, nothing daunted by such an early rise and a 12½ mile march, several took the field at 11.30 a.m.

This was a glorious victory for us. They went in first and thanks to Bayley, and Pte. Burton, who took 4 and 5 wickets respectively, we dismissed them for 112.

This gave us a chance, though it has been impossible to feel comfortable about any match until the opponents total has been passed. However, Hughes (80) and Cpl. Dainty (45, not out) did the trick and winter rain stopped play with our score at 139 for 3 wickets.

On February 14, Major Deeds brought a team against us.

We put them in first and they made 159. Hughes came to the rescue with an excellent 111, while Bayley made 21. Otherwise the side did not do much and we were out for 213. Pte. Harvey bowled particularly well in this match, going on late he took 5 wickets for 20 runs.

The last match of the season was the Officers' versus the Regiment.

On paper, the Regiment appeared to be very strong in bowling, while the Officers (*on paper*) appeared to be fairly strong in batting.

The Regiment batted first and a rot set in, Whitfeld taking 6 wickets for 11 runs. So as not to spoil his average (?) he took himself off and Pte. Heudebourck, batting with excellent judgment, made 42 runs.

In any case, the Regiment were all out for 71.

Then the "so-called" good batting side went in.

Eyston and Hughes were both out before the score

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was 30. Paris was next; score 40. The Colonel, unfortunately, made 0; so the score was 40 for 4. Not very good for such a strong batting side! Bayley then made 23, which helped matters on, but Horan made 0, which rather counteracted the good work and the total was only 54 when the 6th wicket fell. Booth and Bayley took the score to 73, when Booth was caught and bowled. Cooke then made 0, leaving Hamilton and Whitfeld left to bat, and still only 73 on the board. Hamilton managed to stay in while Bayley made a few runs, bringing the score to 96. Whitfeld then joined Hamilton and when Hamilton was eventually bowled, the total was 125, of which Hamilton had contributed 10 and Whitfeld 24, not out. Cpl. Dainty bowled well, taking 6 wickets for 50 runs.

So much for the season 1928–29.

Just as we start cricket in the Autumn, we shall sail away to Burma to find that cricket there has just finished.

This, remember, is written in March, 1929, and there may be something to put in as a postscript later.

## Depot Cricket.

The Depot Cricket team had quite a successful season, the results being: 16 matches won, 11 lost and 1 drawn. The pitch was not so good as last year, but the dry summer had a great deal to do with it. Barnard came over from Aylesbury whenever he was able to get away and helped to strengthen the side considerably. Siggers of the Area Staff, who is

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living with us, played often and so did Swyer, the Educational Officer, the latter is a very good wicket keeper. When outside help was not available, however, the Depot side was rather weak. W. Whitton, from the "Ampney Cottage," played regularly; his bowling was most useful, although the wicket was never really to his liking. Giles, Mr. Grant and Sgt. Ponting were the most consistent batsmen. Pte. Jackson, Sgt. Ponting and Recruit Welch the most successful bowlers. The team fielded well, especially Sgt. May, who brought off some brilliant one-handed catches. We were lucky in finding Recruits Lyne and Welch, who, with coaching, should become useful cricketers. Mr. Beare and Colour-Sgt. Smith were our official umpires and very well did they do their job.

The following played for the Depot: Giles, Colvill, Mr. Grant, C.S.M. Bennett, Sgt. Ponting, Sgt. May, Sgt. Prince, Sgt. White, Sgt. Waller, Cpl. Stallwood, Pte. Jackson, Pte. Smith, Bugler Jeffries, Recruits Lyne, and Welch.

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# FOOTBALL, 1929

## First Battalion

The football season is now nearly over. There is one more match for the first eleven and three more for the second. This season the first eleven have taken part in the United Services League, Division I, while the second eleven have played in the Isle of Wight League, Division I. The inter-company league went off satisfactorily and for once we were not seriously hampered by the weather. Football is about the only thing that is benefited by a three-months drought.

Here is the result:

| | Played. | Won. | Lost. | Drawn. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. "M.G." Company | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| 2. "X" ,, | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 3. "C" ,, | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| 4. "Z" ,, | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 5. "A" ,, | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| 6. "B" ,, | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 |

The first eleven entered for three cups. The Army Cup, United Services Charity Cup and the Isle of Wight Challenge Cup.

In the Army Cup we were unfortunate enough to draw the R.A.O.C., who won the cup last year, in the first round, and were beaten 7—1.

In the Charity Cup, we drew the 7th Medium Brigade in the first round and defeated them 7—1. In the second round we met the Royal Marines who defeated us 3—2 after a most exciting match.

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In the Isle of Wight Challenge Cup, we met Sandown after drawing a bye in the first round, whom we beat 5—1. In the semi-finals we met Cowes, who beat us 3—2 by a goal from a penalty kick scored in the last three minutes of the game, their other two goals being both penalties. A most disappointing finish to the most exciting match of the year, in which our team showed up to their best advantage.

The boys entered a team for the Boys' Army Cup and were defeated by the Wiltshire Regiment 4—3 after pressing almost the whole time, but seldom scoring.

At a recent Athletic Committee Meeting, it was decided that the first eleven should play in the 1st Division of the Island League and the second eleven should be moved down to the 2nd Division of the same league. This arrangement will mean a great cutting down of expenses for the first eleven, who will not now have to cross over to the mainland every time they play an away match.

We regret to say that we are losing Sgt. Millett before next season. He has been the captain and backbone of our first eleven for many seasons and will be very hard to replace.

Here are the results of the matches played in the United Services League, Div. I, by the first eleven.

| | |
|---|---|
| H.M.S. *Victory* (here) .. .. .. | 3—0 won. |
| H.M.S. *Dolphin* (away) .. .. | 3—8 lost. |
| R.A.O.C. (away) .. .. .. | 2—7 lost. |
| H.M.S. *Vernon* (here).. .. .. | 2—0 won. |
| H.M.S. *Excellent* (away) .. .. | 0—4 lost. |
| Royal Marines (here) .. .. .. | 2—2 draw. |
| R.A.O.C. (here) .. .. .. | 2—5 lost. |
| Welch Regt. (here) .. .. .. | 1—1 draw. |
| H.M.S. *Vernon* (away).. .. .. | 2—3 lost. |

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| | |
|---|---|
| Royal Marines (away) .. .. .. | 4—2 won. |
| Welch Regt. (away) .. .. .. | 3—0 won. |
| H.M.S. *Excellent* (here) .. .. | 0—2 lost. |
| H.M.S. *Dolphin* (here) .. .. .. | To be played. |

Second eleven (Isle of Wight League, Div. I).

| | |
|---|---|
| Ventnor (away) .. .. .. | 3—3 draw. |
| E. Cowes Ath. (away) .. .. .. | 2—3 lost. |
| Cowes (home) .. .. .. | 2—5 lost. |
| Yaverland R.A. (away) .. .. | 3—6 lost. |
| Yaverland R.A. (home) .. .. | 3—3 draw. |
| Ryde (home) .. .. .. .. | 9—3 won. |
| Sandown (home) .. .. .. | 6—2 won. |
| Sandown (away) .. .. .. | 11—1 won. |
| Newport (home) .. .. .. | 0—6 lost. |
| Ventnor (home) .. .. .. | 2—0 won. |

## SECOND BATTALION

A poor season, a thing of " rags and patches," with the rags by far the most numerous. In the first division of the Calcutta League, we finished last but one (first eleven), and in the second division half-way down the list (second eleven). We were beaten in the first round of the I.F.A. Shield, in the second round of the Lady Hardinge Shield, and in the semi-final of the Griffiths Shield (a junior competition). As a bare statement of fact, this is a mournful record. There are, however, certain brighter aspects of the situation. There is immense keenness on the game throughout the Regiment and given more favourable conditions, which I hope will prevail in Burma, I have no doubt that we shall be able to get together a team which will achieve better things.

There were certain very real difficulties at Calcutta. The football follows directly after the hockey, and

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League games begin forthwith. In view of our progress in the Kaivan Cup, we concentrated on hockey during the latter part of its season with the result that we were faced with the problem of when to play off the Inter-Company football league. The situation was still further complicated by the absence of one Company in the hills and by the pending formation of the Machine Gun Company. It was eventually decided to postpone our parochial tournaments (Inter-Company and Inter-Platoon) until after our move to Burma, and it is difficult to see how any other decision was possible; but inevitable as the decision was, it seriously handicapped the work of selecting the Regimental side. I cannot stress this point too strongly; if we are to produce a worthy team we must concentrate on platoon and company games. There is no other way of finding out the talent we possess and of giving encouragement and experience to promising young players. The system which was forced on us this year is unsatisfactory in the extreme, and I am sure that our indifferent showing was due to the lack of the opportunity of utilising our resources to the full. I am not trying to "crab" the team. They gave of their best and have one or two outstanding performances to their credit, e.g., *v.* Calcutta F.C.; we won once and drew the return; *v.* Dalhousie (league champions) we drew once and lost the return, most unluckily by 1—0; *v.* D.C.L.I., we lost one and won one 3—0, the latter being the best thing of the year. But against the Indian teams we did not do so well. In fact, we drew two and lost the rest, usually because of the superior speed of our opponents. This, I claim, goes to show that we are still inclined to rely

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too much on our old stalwarts, and that we do not encourage the young idea sufficiently.

Individual performances are always difficult to assess, but we had two Calcutta "Internationals" and one reserve, Sgt. Betteridge, who was out of the game for more than half the season as a result of a motor-cycle accident, Spacey and Dandy. The latter was unlucky, as he was up against a really first class goalkeeper in Davies of Dalhousie. In a normal year, he too would have got his "cap," without any shadow of doubt. Cpl. Fearman, as captain of the side, had a difficult and somewhat thankless task, but he stuck to it well, and played much sound and constructive football. He too was handicapped by ill-health.

The second eleven was the subject of much experiment and eventually developed into quite a useful combination which made a really fine effort to win the Griffith Shield, which is the football equivalent of the Kaivan Cup. We discovered an enthusiastic leader in Lce.-Cpl. Newell (centre-half), and with a little more scoring power among the forwards, we might easily have brought it off.

Turning to minor competitions, the Company teams (less first and second eleven players) had a relatively much better record, finishing third, fourth, fifth and sixth in the Power Memorial League. Minor football, however, is not well run in Calcutta, and there were many occasions when the temper of both players and spectators was severely tried.

I cannot speak too highly of the behaviour of the men on these occasions. At no time was there the semblance of a regrettable incident.

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In conclusion, I would urge my successor in this thankless task to pay the greatest attention to Platoon and Company games. They are the foundation on which to build the Regimental team. Personally, I feel that we are inclined to take our games too casually. I am not for a moment advocating "striking" off a selection of trained gladiators, but I maintain that, if we are to take the position in sports that we should do, we must get down to it and organise our games with an eye on the competition which we wish the Regiment to win. As I said above, there is great keenness on the game throughout, and this, after all, is the main object of all athletics.

The talent is there, I am sure; and it only needs developing by judicious encouragement and by the work of a really active selection committee. We are capable of success whenever forethought and organisation have been introduced—witness Bulgy Wootten and his magnificent boxing team—and I fully expect that whoever writes these notes in 1930, will have more cheerful results to record.

A.C.M.P.

## Depot

### *Close of Season*, 1928–29

The close of 1928 saw the Depot team well on the road to gaining the aim of their ambition—"Champions."

On January 26th, merry bus loads of troops could have been seen wending their way to Bicester, where we were due to meet the R.A.F. in the semi-final of the County Junior Shield.

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Rumours were about as to the drubbing we were going to receive, the same R.A.F. team having recently defeated a senior league team. Nevertheless we were confident of stemming their surprise actions. The first half was fast and furious, but no goals were scored. In the second half the Depot had the advantage of a slope, and quickly made themselves felt. A nice pass from May enabled Stallwood to break through and score an important goal, as it put that little bit of extra ginger into the Depot attack, which soon had the R.A.F. hanging out signals of distress, and a very pleasant game resulted in our winning by 5 goals to nil.

A very pleasing feature after a good game was the kind invitation extended to the Depot team and spectators to take tea with them, an act of hospitality that was much appreciated.

We now settled down to our league fixtures, and our rivals, the East Oxford Corinthians, provided the opposition; after a hectic game we shared the points. The following week they were our visitors, and again after a fast game the points were shared. We abstracted full points from the Steel Press and Cowley Athletic, and this placed us at the head of our division, but with the East Oxford Corinthians level on points.

A deciding match had to be played, when after extra time we won by 5 goals to 2. In winning this match the *Oxford Times* awarded us their Certificate of Merit.

In the semi-final of the City League (there being four divisions to play off), we were drawn against the Gasworks.

From the commencement of the game they set about the Depot in earnest, and with a weakened team,

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the Depot were soon in arrears and eventually suffered their first defeat by 3 goals to nil.

Our next match was in the semi-final of the County Junior League, and our opponents were Summertown, the same teams being also finalists in the County Shield.

Summertown went off with a rush and before the Depot could settle down were two goals up, and keeping up the pressure held a 3 to 1 lead at half time. The Depot were by no means done with and managed to make the scores level one minute from time. The replay took place on the following Saturday, when we took their measure and won by 3 goals to nil.

Unfortunately the final was fixed for the following Wednesday, and our injured players had not recovered, consequently several changes had to be made. Botley United were our opponents, and after a hard game, Botley lifted the Cup by 1 goal to nil.

Our last match of the season was the final of the County Junior Shield against Summertown on the Oxford City ground. We were feeling confident of repeating our semi-final form. The game was full of excitement and play was rather robust. After an even first half, the Depot took control of the game and scoring 3 goals to nil made themselves custodians of the County Shield for 12 months.

The Shield and medals were presented by Mr. Herbert Smith, President of the Oxfordshire Football Association.

The summary of matches played, including friendlies, resulted: Played, 34; won, 25; drawn, 4; lost 5. Goals, for, 133; against, 56.

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The following rendered good service for the Depot: Lieut. Moody, Sgts. Prince, May, James, Chamberlain, Plant, Waller, Cpls. Stallwood, Holmes, Pottinger, Ptes. Seers, Daubney, Weston, Thompson, Winfield, Jackson, Welsh and Sommervile. Cpl. Stallwood was a prolific goal scorer, his total being 84.

The season's results were :

Winners County Junior Shield; runners-up County Junior League; semi-finalists, Oxford City League.

Season 1929–30 has now partly run its course, and considering the material at our disposal, we feel satisfied with results. The pleasure of winning the Shield has soon made itself felt, as on looking up the rule book, it was discovered that the eleven players who won shield medals are not allowed to play in the team for two seasons. However, after the situation had been explained at a general meeting of the Association, they agreed to allow four of the original team to play in the League. There were in fact only four of the team remaining, the remainder having departed to the 43rd or to Army Reserve. Practice games were indulged in, but it was apparent from the talent, that team building was going to be a problem.

We opened our League fixtures with a visit from Cowley Athletic, and after a good game collected the points by 5 goals to 1.

East Oxford Corinthians were our next visitors, no doubt they came full of determination and revenge, for last season's defeats, as from the start they smote us right and left, and ran out easy winners by 8 goals to nil.

As a proof that our spirits were not damped, we

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visited Nuneham on the following Saturday and won by 6 to 1.

Next we put the Electric Light out by 3 to nil.

Having received a bye in the first round of the Shield, we had to visit Headington in the second round.

With a new team and in miserable weather, the Depot cut a sorry figure. We scored first, and then allowed Headington to put on six goals before replying. It was a case of the team adapting themselves to the conditions, and Headington certainly enjoyed themselves to the full. Our League activities have met with partial success. The East Oxford Corinthians blighted our hopes in the City League by again defeating us by 6 to 3.

Our only hope now is the Junior League, but as the leaders, Headington, visited us last Saturday and inflicted a home defeat by 7 goals to 2, we shall have to pull up our socks if we are going to head the League.

Our record to date is :

City League.—Played 6, won 3, lost 2, drawn 1, goals, for 22, against 20.

County League.—Played 4, won 2, lost 1, drawn 1, goals, for 9, against 10.

County Shield.—Played 1, lost 1, goals, for 2, against 6.

Friendlies.—Played 8, won 4, lost 3, drawn 1, goals, for 41, against 24.

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## HOCKEY, 1929

### First Battalion

Our insular position is rather a handicap to Regimental hockey, for, although we are only separated from the mainland by a few miles of water, from the time and money it takes to cross the said water we might almost be in the Channel Islands, so we don't make the journey often.

Luckily, there are three good club sides over here, which enables us to get a side together for the Army Cup Competition, and we did get a good side together and had a tremendous tussle with our last year's opponents, the Royal Tank Corps, from Bovington, on December 15th.

It was a disappointing match, owing chiefly to weather conditions, the ground after a few minutes of play was a quagmire, but even this should not have accounted for our lack of form. Only a week previously we had beaten a side of Marines at Portsmouth by a large margin, the forwards showing they were goal scorers if nothing else, but in the mud the goals would not come. Lieut. Alston-Roberts-West got a good one for us early in the first half; the score was 1—1 at half time, and they added another, not however, until near the end of the game. On looking back I think we were more disappointed than need have been, as they were undoubtedly a good side and went far in the competition, which shows that our

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general standard of play, hard to tell when isolated like we are, is well up to the average.

Our side was as follows:

Goal: Lce.-Cpl. Smart; Backs: Capt. Giles and Pte. Millett; Halves: Pte. Gloster, Lieut. Smith, Bdsm. Busby; Forwards: Cpl. Franklin, Lieut. Randall, Lieut. A. R. West, Captain Ames, Lieut. Rowley.

The Inter-Company League which starts in January was finished by Easter, March 31st, thanks to an unusually dry season. This was very keenly played off and resulted in "X" Company (Signallers and Administrative Group) taking the points for the Regimental Athletic Shield; the Machine Gun Company won the same number of games, but lost on the goal average.

*Results of League.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st. | "X" Company | .. | 6 points |
| 2nd. | "M.G." „ | .. | 5 „ |
| 3rd. | "C" „ | .. | 4 „ |
| 4th. | "Z" „ | .. | 3 „ |
| 5th. | "B" „ | .. | 2 „ |
| 6th. | "A" „ | .. | 1 point. |

## Depot Hockey, 1929.

Hockey in 1929 was quite a flourishing concern; the ground was much better and we had a large fixture list.

Of course the frost we had in the spring did not help us, but we managed to get in a fair number of games. Smyth, C.Q.M.S. Bull and Norton were invaluable to

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us and with such others as Sgts. Broderick and Ponting we managed to win our fair share of matches. Giles joined us in the summer and in our autumn fixtures was a great addition at " back." Graham also came and strengthened the side at " outside right," but unfortunately got laid out from a ball on the knee and was *hors de combat* until after Christmas. Sgt. Norton now plays centre-forward and is a " dead eye " if he gets a good pass into the circle. We had a great game with Brasenose College, who had three " Blues " playing for them and after a hard game managed to defeat them by 5 goals to 4. We unfortunately lost to the Depot, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, and to the Depot, Royal Berkshire Regiment, but in the latter match we had a very weak side owing to people being away, and we hope to get our revenge on both of them in the near future. Altogether in the autumn we played 16 matches of which we won 6, drew 5, and lost 4, which wasn't too bad. The following played regularly for the Depot in 1929 :

Smyth, Giles, Graham, Colvill, Siggers, Baddeley, C.Q.M.S. Bull, Sgt. Ponting, Sgt. Norton, Sgt. Broderick, Sgt. Calver, Sgt. Knell, Sgt. Heredge, Sgt. Chamberlain, Bugler Jefferys, Ptes. Boston, Power, English, Bowerman.

## Second Battalion

It is no good deceiving ourselves as to the standard of Regimental hockey at the moment. Admittedly there were " peculiar difficulties " in getting a team together in Calcutta, but in my experience, which goes back a good many years, there are always " peculiar

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SECOND BATTALION, HOCKEY TEAM, CALCUTTA.

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difficulties " in every station. There is only one way of overcoming them, and that is by broadening the basis on which Regimental players can be selected. If we are ever to compete with first-class teams in this country we must have some hundreds of capable players from whom to choose, instead of the fifty or so who are available when the season opens.

There is too much Regimental hockey in Calcutta. I hope that Burma will provide the antidote, and that we shall get down to plenty of Company, and even Platoon games, with a possibility of a Regimental game or trial about once a week.

The above may sound ungrateful to a team which won the Kaivan Cup, but after all, the Kaivan is only a junior challenge cup. It would have been more fitting if we had competed in the " Beighton," but this was above our standard, and would have still further depressed the few stalwarts who remained keen on the best of all possible games for Indian conditions. For the team which we eventually produced after numerous experiments, successful and otherwise, I have nothing but praise. They were immensely keen, tried hard the whole time, and in spite of starting the tournament with an uninspiring league record, they refused to be overawed by more fancied opponents. Joseph Thorne kept his side together well, and in most of the matches was one of the outstanding players on the field. He was well supported by Hughes on the right wing, by C.S.M. Bailey at centre-half, and by the ever-efficient Pte. Spacey at left back. The latter is a remarkable athlete who plays all games with equal facility, and will be a sad loss. He goes home this trooping season.

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In the tournament itself we nearly made a mess of our chances in the first round, by allowing Birkmyre's to score twice within the first ten minutes. This rather disorganised matters, but the team pulled themselves together and managed to equalise just on time. In the replay we struck our true form, and won easily.

In the next round, we met the Mahommedan Union, a fast and clever team who had done well in the third division of the League. I was not optimistic of our chances, but the team rose to the occasion, and scored a highly meritorious victory of 3—0.

We then met Bagh Bazaar and won as we liked against a speedy but not very skilful team by 4—0. In this match, Toft in goal never touched the ball from beginning to end of the game. We were now in the last eight and things were becoming much more difficult. Our next "fence" was the Armenian College, who were a well-trained team, specialising in defence in which they packed their circle very cleverly. We were also handicapped by being without C.S.M. Bailey (injured), and both our first and second meetings resulted in goalless draws. At the third attempt C.S.M. Bailey was back in the team and scored the necessary goal early on, thus enabling us to meet Howrah Union in the semi-final.

Howrah Union are a side who let keenness outrun discretion, and the game was spoilt by a succession of free hits and by the crowd encroaching on the field of play. The behaviour of the team under these very trying conditions was beyond all praise, especially as luck was against them, and they could do everything but score, the full time ending at 0—0. It seemed that we were in for yet another replay, but towards the

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end of the first period of extra time, Lce.-Cpl. Newell and Waldram added fine goals, both shot from the left at a very acute angle, and we passed into the final with a 2—0 win.

St. Joseph's, who had survived in the other half of the draw, were a well-balanced team with a good forward line. The final started by Baker scoring a surprise goal in the first few minutes, and this seemed to put St. Joseph's out of their stride, as for the rest of the first half we pressed almost continuously but could not add to our lead. In the second half we had some narrow escapes, Toft bringing off at least two brilliant saves to enable us to win 1—0.

It only remains for me to draw attention to the inconvenient shape of the Cup itself. Even those who tried to drink from the "Lea Cup" before R.S.M. Whitton discovered that the ornamental top was removable can have no conception of the difficulties presented by the numerous lips with which the "Kaivan" is provided. It was not so bad in the dim religious light of the Regimental Institute, but when the ceremony was repeated in the Mess (with "bubbly") there were many regrettable instances, and much good wine ran to waste. Joseph, who alone was proficient, is suspected of private practice in preparation for the ordeal.

In the Calcutta League (2nd Division) we took rather a lowly place, due to the necessity of releasing Company players for Inter-Company matches and to the fact that we had no time for adequate Regimental trials. The latter difficulty necessitated using League games to try out new players, and I claim that the result of the "Kaivan" justified these methods.



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The Inter-Company League produced some keen and hearty games, but unfortunately but little new talent.

"B" deservedly won, with "D" and "A" second and third. These three teams were very even and had extremely close matches, the others were somewhat weaker.

So ended a season of which we have reason to be pleased, as we showed definite signs of improvement, although we have not yet reached the standard to which we should justifiably aspire.

A.C.M.P.

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# BOXING, 1929

## First Battalion

In the 1926 Chronicle the necessity of securing the services of a Regimental boxing instructor, who can both box himself and train others, was brought out. It was proposed to enlist a man of this type from the Oxford district, and to make him the responsible and permanent Regimental Instructor. Apparently this excellent suggestion was found to be an impossibility. At the commencement of the 1929 season, we had a very able instructor in Sgt. Jennings of the Marines, but it was found that the expenses entailed in his coming over from Portsmouth to the Island twice a week for an hour's instruction was more than the boxing fund could stand. His services however were not wasted, inasmuch that he was able, at any rate, during the early portion of the season, to train a few of the better boxers in each Company, in the art of teaching others. The result was very apparent in the improvement of the general standard of the boxing throughout the season.

The boxing season is really very limited, and it comes at the most difficult time of the year, when constant changes are taking place due to men going on their annual furlough. Before Christmas, a Novices and an Open Competition is the most one can hope for. These took place on November 29th and December 6th respectively.

Being on the Island, we are greatly handicapped in

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finding outside opponents to match our better men, and also in finding suitable referees outside the Regiment.

Throughout the season we were very fortunate in having Dr. Raymond of Newport to act as referee. He did not miss a single day's boxing, and the Regiment are greatly indebted to him.

In order to find a suitable opponent for Cpl. Wood, the holder of the Henley Middleweight Belt, a six round contest was arranged with a civilian amateur from Cowes. Motley Thomas was the better man, but Cpl. Wood put up a very plucky fight, losing the fight on points in the sixth round. A four round contest between Pte. Baxter, the Bantam Belt Holder and G. Tyler, of the Cowes Boxing Club, resulted in a rather too easy win for Pte. Baxter.

On January 24th, "B" League was started and boxing took place every Thursday evening until February 21st, "A" Company fighting their way to the finish, to win with 46 points to their credit. "C" Company were second with 40 points, and the remainder in order were "M.G." Company with 39, "B" with 33, "X" with 22 and "Z" with 3, points. "A" Company were awarded Captain H. E. F. Smyth's Cup.

On February 28th, a third open Competition was held, to enable Companies to choose their teams for the Inter-Companies Knock Out Competition, as up to date the League had merely brought forward the younger talent. "A" League having been abolished, it was April 11th before the final could take place. The "M.G." Company proved the winners and were awarded Colonel A. G. Bayley's Cup, the points also counted towards the Inter-Company Athletic Shield

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presented by Colonel M. F. Day. The remaining Companies in order of merit were: "Z," "C," "A," "X" and "B." Every night throughout the season, at least two matches each evening had been arranged for the boys in the Regiment, and some very promising young boxers are to be found amongst them.

The Challenging for the belts was particularly interesting this year, a new belt for Catchweights having been presented to complete the set. Pte. Coshell, who has twenty-two years' service, very pluckily entered as a challenger, and although he did not win his fight, he so injured his opponent, Pte. Garland, that the latter was unable to fight Cpl. Walters who had drawn the bye. Cpl. Wood, the holder of the Henley Middle Weight Belt, was defeated by Bdsm. Hobson, after perhaps the most exciting contest of the year. Pte. Baxter had a walk over for the Featherweight Belt.

The holders of the belts for 1929 were therefore as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Catchweight | .. | Cpl. Walters. |
| Middle | .. | Bdsm. Hobson. |
| Welter | .. | Bdsm. Latham. |
| Light | .. | Lce.-Cpl. Park. |
| Feather | .. | Pte. Baxter. |
| Bantam | .. | Pte. Davis. |

Silver medals were presented to all the holders.

We had hoped very much to have been able to enter a team for some outside events this year. The Girdwood Cup, which is open for competition in the 9th Infantry Brigade, had not been contested for three years.

The Welch Regiment, and the South Wales Borderers, stationed at Portsmouth, and ourselves, all

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entered a team. The competition was to have taken place at the end of April. This would have suited us very well, but unfortunately the South Wales Borderers who had only just returned from abroad, asked for the competition to be put off another month. It is difficult to carry on the boxing season into May, and we had no alternative but to withdraw, as the Band, who supply our best boxers, had started their summer tour of the fashionable seaside resorts.

## Second Battalion

### *The Presidency and Assam District Championships Darjeeling*

To begin with the results, they summarize the whole of a truly wonderful show for which the very greatest credit is due not only to the Regimental boxers themselves but also to Bulgy Wootten for his untiring work in getting a really fine team together.

We won every weight except the Middles, in addition, we had the runner up in the Lights, and semi-finalist in the Welters and Feathers.

The eventual scoring was as follows :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 52nd Light Infantry .. .. .. | 52 | points. |
| 1st Bn., the D.C.L.I. .. .. .. | 35 | ,, |
| 2nd Bn. the Yorks and Lancs. Regt... | 17 | ,, |

We also won both our contests, Middles and Feathers, and Pte. Andrews took the special prize for the most skilful boxer. I either judged or refereed all his fights, and although he usually gave away both weight and reach, yet I only saw two blows land on him at all effectively. Pte. Turk might have won this, but what

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can one do with a man who wins on a K.O. in the first few seconds of every fight?

We failed to take the best losers prize, but we had not many eligible for it.

The story of the competition is simple. We started well on the first night by taking the opening fight, a middle weight special contest which Lce.-Cpl. Edwards won on points. Pte. Cossey followed by winning the first round of the feathers very easily and Lce.-Cpl. Murphy knocked out his opponent in the lights. Then came a tragedy. Pte. Cutler taking the count in the first round of the middles. Ptes. Andrews and Benfield both won, and Pte. Turk's first fight lasted 31 seconds, including the time taken to count out his opponent.

The second night was a repetition of the first, except that we lost two semi-finals, Ptes. Abbotts and Tanner just going down on points.

Pte. Benfield had to scratch to Lce.-Cpl. Murphy in the light weight final owing to a dislocated thumb. Pte. Bennett won his special contest, the referee stopping the fight in the third round, and Pte. Turk disposed of two opponents in 63 and 19 seconds respectively. Pte. Robey in the light heavies, also put his man to sleep, but delayed doing so until half way through the second round.

So ended a wonderful show which brought us both the District Championship and Inter-Cantonment Cups. A great effort, and one of which we may feel justly proud.

The hall was crowded on both nights with an appreciative audience, the Lebong Detachment, who were frankly partisan, practically monopolising the gallery.

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The District Commander, Major-General H. E. ap Rhys Pryce, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., after a short and well-chosen speech, gave away the prizes at an hour which was too late to admit of filling the Cup that evening. However, to-morrow was also a day, and Bulgy and I did our obvious duty.

A.C.M.P.

## Depot Boxing

Although we had no outside matches during 1929, Inter-Platoon Competitions were held quarterly as usual, and the standard of fighting was well up to that of recent years. Vigour, keenness, and a proper fighting spirit, more than compensated for lack of skill.

As the majority of our competitors have absolutely no experience of boxing when they arrive, skilful boxing is not to be expected, nor can it be taught during the short time at our disposal. However, we feel that we are doing our job if we can instil into the minds of our recruits the need for fitness, " guts," and the team spirit, and in this we are, as a rule, successful.

In a few cases recruits have shown a certain amount of skill and in many cases a good deal of natural aptitude, and these should be useful to the Regiment.

We were lucky in being able to get Major Brett to come to referee our competitions. He has proved himself an ideal man for the job, which is saying quite a lot, as ideal referees for novices' boxing are not found every day.

Captain Baddeley's arrival has made a very welcome addition to our training staff.

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# GYMNASTICS, 1929

## Second Battalion

Although short accounts of the doings of the 52nd gymnasts have appeared from time to time in the Journal, it is thought that an outline of the progress made since the War in this most useful form of physical pastime may be of some interest.

The birth of Gymnastics in the Regiment in post-war days took place in 1921, when it was stationed at Tipperary. Shortly after our arrival there, a hut was commandeered as a temporary gymnasium and equipped with a horse and a pair of parallel bars. This was opened for "voluntary" every evening, and once the ice was broken the attendance became most encouraging; in fact, after a while the officers came *en masse* and formed a class on their own, which was thoroughly enjoyed, even by the unfortunate officer who fell off the parallel bars and removed most of the skin from his face.

Once gymnastics were really in full swing, orders were given that every Company should attend one evening a week. At first, many individuals looked horrified when they were asked to turn upside down on the bars or to hurl themselves into oblivion over the horse. However, they soon found it was not half as bad as it looked, and eventually the men thoroughly enjoyed their evening at the "Gyms."

This was a most valuable means of discovering talent, and although only very elementary exercises

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were attempted, those who showed any aptitude were allowed to stay after their company had been dismissed in order to try something more difficult. It was slow progress, as hardly any non-commissioned officers or men had ever done anything of this nature before, but keenness was there, and gradually there emerged out of a mass of ungainly humans a little batch who promised to be quite useful gymnasts one day.

Unfortunately at this time, non-commissioned officers were badly wanted with the Regiment, and it was only possible to send one on a Course to the Army School of Physical Training. Hence we were handicapped for Instructors, and the whole of the work devolved upon one officer and one sergeant, who however were later assisted by a corporal.

With the move of the Regiment to Lichfield ended the first phase of progress in gymnastics, and the second did not commence until our arrival in India.

Once settled in Kuldana, we looked about for a gymnasium, and eventually found a building designated as such on paper, but which in reality was more or less a store for barrack furniture. This was cleared, and there emerged from underneath the pile an antique pair of parallel bars and a vaulting horse in the last stages of decay. Appeals for replacement only met with the stereotyped Indian reply—" Financial stringency will not allow," so our pioneers set to work and produced something for us to perform on. The gymnasium was then opened for " voluntary," and most of the old Tipperary faces turned up together with some new ones, which showed that they were still keen.

A surprise came when it was suggested that there

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should be a gymnastic display at the Waterloo Sports in 1923. However, there's nothing like trying anything once, so a team of twelve was selected and practice commenced in the evenings. It was exasperating nevertheless, for it was found impossible to get all twelve together at the same time. Imagine trying to practice a tableau when you discover that the pivotal man is on guard ! However, it was managed somehow, and the display turned out to be a great success. Only easy exercises were attempted, but good style and smart team work, carried the thing through.

At the end of the year we were asked to give a display at the Assault at Arms at Murree. The team was slightly changed and an improvement was made in the various items. A large crowd witnessed the performance, and judging by the applause it was extremely popular. In fact the team made quite a name for themselves, as we discovered afterwards.

At the end of the year, the Regiment moved down to Rawalpindi, and there again we had the same difficulty in finding apparatus for the gymnasium, but this time the Military Works Department were a little more reasonable and managed to produce some, though of rather doubtful quality.

In the spring of 1924 we were asked to give another display at the Military Tournament in Rawalpindi. A team of fourteen was selected and training commenced in the evenings, or in other words in the men's spare time.

At the Tournament, when the team marched on to the ground, they were loudly applauded, which proved that they had already made a name for themselves. The display was again a most popular item,

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and was made memorable by the unfortunate incident of the non-commissioned officer, who, when doing an admirable " splits " over the horse, took the exercise a little too literally and split, not only his legs, but the whole of the nether portion of his trousers from top to bottom in full view of the audience! (Since that time, the team have always had their trousers made on the loose side.)

Only the parallel bars and horse were used for display work as the Military Works Department were unable to produce anything like a safe specimen of horizontal bar, and the time was not yet ripe for purchasing one of our own. The height of the horse in those days was 5 ft. 2 inches, which by comparison was a mere pony against what we nowadays use.

When the Regiment left for Razmak, one may say that the second phase of progress was completed. The third did not begin until we moved to Chakrata, for while on the Frontier gymnastics were impossible. During that period however, we sent two non-commissioned officers for a Physical Training Course, but unfortunately neither of them returned with much knowledge of " the naked art," as the Ancient Greeks used to call it.

On our arrival at Chakrata, we scraped together some apparatus for the Gymnasium, " voluntary " re-commenced, and the attendance was exceptionally good. Occasionally some of the officers would look in and disport themselves during the " children's hour." A great deal of hard work was put in, and quite a lot of " new blood " came to the Gymnasium. Most of the original Tipperary nucleus had gone home to England, but their successors were nobly carrying

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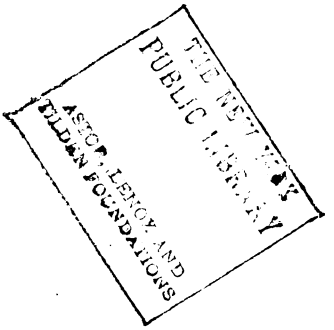


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SECOND BATTALION, TATTOO GYMNASTIC TEAM, CALCUTTA, 1929.

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on the good work. Two displays were given, both at the Regimental Sports, and though there were few outside the Regiment to witness them, they were very much appreciated and kept quite a number from their teas. The team had then increased to 24 and the height of the horse had reached 5 feet 8 inches, which facts are concrete proofs that much headway had been made.

Towards the end of the year, an innovation was introduced in the shape of a gymnastic competition, which included an Inter-Company competition for teams of six, and also an individual one of two standards. Much hard work was put in both by teams and individuals, with the result that the day of the competition produced some most encouraging results. Every company put in a team, and the turn-out of the teams was a delight to the eye. Moreover there were 54 entries in Individual Standard "B" and 6 in Standard "A," which considering all things was not a bad start. "C" Company won the team competition and were closely followed up by "A" Company.

Shortly after the competition, the Headquarters Presidency and Assam District asked the Regiment what items it could provide for the forthcoming Tattoo to be held in Calcutta in February, and once it was decided that a gymnastic display should feature on the "Bill of fare," we once more started preliminary practice to that end.

The fourth phase now commences at Calcutta. Here undoubtedly the most marked improvement has been shown from every point of view.

On first inspection, the gymnasium, as we expected, presented a bare and useless appearance, so it was

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decided to equip it thoroughly and make it look as a gymnasium should. This done, the problem of attracting men to it in the evenings was indeed a hard one, when duties were abnormally heavy and every facility for other enjoyment was at hand in Calcutta. However, by dint of perseverence and by having a well-lighted and well-equipped place for the men to work in, the number attending " voluntary " increased and has maintained a high average.

The team of 24 recommenced its training for the Tattoo, and an ambitious programme was rehearsed which was of a far higher standard than had hitherto been attempted. A new horse was built to a height of 6 ft. 4 inches, but it was found that hard and constant practice would be required to accustom the team to the extra height (no mean one by the way), and the difficulties of working by searchlight. This team worked on the average three hours a day for six weeks, and though as a team they were seldom complete owing to guards and duties, they managed by real hardwor k to reach quite a high standard of efficiency. The Tattoo performance was a great test for them. They had for the first time a large audience of about six thousand each night, and the heat and uncertainty of the lighting made their work all the more difficult. However, they came through it well, and their " turn " was considered by everyone to be one of the best on the programme. A word should be said about the " funny man," who kept the audience in fits of laughter every night, and incidentally his instructor in grave apprehension as to what he would do next.

Soon after the Tattoo, certain keen gymnasts suggested that a Gymnastic Club should be formed.

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Sanction was given for this, and the Club came into being with some 30 members paying a fixed subscription, all of whom were no mean performers. A club room was found and furnished, and it made a very comfortable little haven of rest for the members at all times. The object of the Club was to encourage gymnastics generally in the Regiment, and to promote a good team spirit amongst the members. Each member had to attend the gymnasium at least two evenings a week, and it was incumbent upon all to not only improve themselves but to help on the "new hands." Since then the Club has flourished, having as many as 52 members (which number for one obvious reason will probably not be exceeded). It has produced teams for football, hockey, cricket and basket ball, and has done its duty in the social world by giving two of the best dances we have had in Calcutta.

Now at last the gymnasium was equipped with a horizontal bar, but as this was a new piece of apparatus to many, it took some time before much headway was made. Even then, the dampness of the Bengal climate, which converts one's hands into something akin to wet sponges, rendered the accomplishment of anything advanced extremely difficult, and not to say dangerous. To attempt anything in the nature of grand circles or long swings inevitably meant that the performer would leave the bar involuntarily at the most critical moment and land ignominiously on his head or some equally delicate and useless portion of his anatomy. The chief instructor found this out to his cost.

During this period we were able to make full use

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of the vacancies allotted to us at the Army School of Physical Training, and with two additions from home we were able to amass a fair "gaggle" of gymnastic instructors, who at any rate could be relied upon to catch the unwary as they fell off the apparatus.

In March 1929, we again produced a display for the tattoo with a still more advanced programme. The team was increased to 28, two pairs of parallel bars were used, two horses, and the horizontal bar for the first time. The team was representative of every rank from officer down to private, with the exception of Regimental Sergeant-Major. A super horse had been built to a height of 7 feet 8 inches (8 inches higher than that used by the Army P.T. Staff at Aldershot), and this, with a man kneeling on top, presented a fairly formidable obstacle for the team to tackle.

The display was again very popular and the team did themselves great credit, for the standard was far higher than the year before. A cinematograph was taken of the whole display, which apart from being quite entertaining proved to be of great instructional value.

Shortly after the tattoo, the Inter-Company Gymnastic Competition took place. Company teams had been increased to ten in number, and the exercises set were considerably harder than in the previous one. The competition, though showing a great improvement in the individuals, was disappointing from the team point of view. Probably heavy duties had hampered previous practice, but suffice it to say that a little foresight on the part of the Company teams concerned would no doubt have made all the difference.

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" B " Company won and " A " Company was again second by a very close margin.

During the remainder of the year the standard of gymnastics has been constantly improving, chiefly due to the exceptional keenness of the men themselves and the unflagging efforts of the instructors. Two more displays were given to civilian audiences in Calcutta, and at the last the team received a small fee, which cheered them considerably.

A few facts and figures might here be of interest. Since 1922, there have been no fewer than 13,382 attendances at " voluntary " in the gymnasium, and during that period there have only been 11 accidents which necessitated admission to hospital, none of which, we are glad to say, involved a military funeral. We have now, roughly speaking, a hundred men interested in gymnastics, and we can put out two separate display teams of 18 each.

In case anyone may think that all our men are becoming muscle bound, it should be borne in mind that gymnastics are judiciously combined with all forms of light P.T. to counteract any such tendency, and although the teams are sometimes given dumb-bell exercises to develop the requisite muscle, the necessary antidote is administered at the same time.

It has been remarked, " Gymnastics belong to the past, P.T. is of much greater value to the soldier to-day." This is in some respects true when it concerns the majority, for we do not all take kindly to gymnastics. But gymnastics need not be buried in the past, as there are always some who with a little encouragement will take to it, and the fascination of progress keeps them at it. Not only does it provide



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a healthy, manly, and interesting pastime, but many an exercise will test a man's nerves to the utmost, thereby bringing out and stimulating some of the best qualities required in a soldier.

As a Regiment, we have profited in that our team is now known over most of India. But no matter whether we be the Shove Ha'penny champions of the Army in India, or the most skilful dart throwers in Lower Bengal, as long as we are "good at something," the reputation of the Regiment will never suffer thereby.

K.S.W.

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## REGIMENTAL COMMITTEE.

THE annual report of the Regimental Committee for the year ending March 31, 1929, was issued to all subscribers in May; the following is a short extract of its contents:

### REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION.

Ninety-five men registered for employment, of whom 51 were definitely found employment by the Committee, two refused the employment offered and four were not recommended. Men seeking situations away from Oxford have been given recommendations, with what success the Committee are unable to say. Several men were given work in barracks, a hot meal and 5s., amounting to a total of 129 days, costing £35 6s. 6d.

One hundred and seventy-eight applications for monetary assistance were received, of which 166 were granted, totalling £353 4s. 7d. £8 was paid towards emigration. During the year £42 13s. 9d. was received from outstanding loans, some of which date back to 1920 and 1921, no further loans were granted.

Three monthly and 21 quarterly pensions were paid during the year amounting to £305 9s. 0d. Grants for children came to £5 for an apprentice, and £16 6s. 4d. for convalescent treatment. £9 18s. 6d. was paid out for funerals.

### DISABLED SOLDIERS' COTTAGE HOMES, COWLEY.

Ex-Sgt. A. Alldridge, D.C.M., and ex-Pte. J. F.

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Kearley continue to occupy the cottages, which are well looked after.

### Regimental Journal

10,110 copies were printed during the year. The credit balance of the account stood at £163 14s. 8d., a decrease, or loss on working, of £16 8s. 1d. compared with the previous year. This is accounted for partly by the very large size of each number which often included extra pages of illustration—the most expensive item in production—by a falling off of £25 in subscriptions and of £40 in advertisements.

### Regimental Charities Fund.

£122 7s. 0d. was paid out to charities which benefit the ex-Service man.

### Regimental Chronicle.

At the close of the financial year the account had a credit balance of £99 14s. 2½d., practically the same as in the previous year.

### Regimental Club.

The balance of the account is £31 15s. 1½d. in credit, a decrease of £20 on the previous year, which is largely attributable to the increased cost of the "At Homes" during the cricket week.

### Regimental Memorial Upkeep Fund.

During the year the credit of this account rose from £117 14s. 5d. to £164 0s. 7d., donations amounting

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to £48 10s. 8d.; another £60 was invested in 3½ per cent. Conversion Loan.

### Miscellaneous.

The erection of an obelisk in the cemetery near Dover Castle to men of the Oxfordshire Militia who died in 1803 and 1804 was completed.

Two pictures "The Wreck of the Birkenhead," and "The Defeat of the Prussian Guard, 1914," were presented to the reading rooms of the Gentlemen Cadets at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, by the Officers of the 43rd and 52nd respectively; two copies of the war volumes of the Chronicle were also sent.

Two men were admitted to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, during the year.

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## OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

### Annual Re-Union

The Fifteenth Annual Re-union and Dinner was held in the Town Hall, Oxford, on Saturday, October 5, 1929.

The Annual Meeting, held prior to the dinner, after passing the minutes and accounts resolved that :—

The next Annual Re-union be held at Aylesbury on Saturday, October 4, 1930.

The President and Vice-President be re-elected.

The Working Committee be re-elected.

This year 30 Officers and 196 Other Ranks attended the dinner, amongst whom were the following :

The President, Major-General Sir John Hanbury Williams, supported by the Mayor of Oxford (Captain G. T. Button) ; Major-General H. R. Davies, Br.-General A. J. F. Eden, Br.-General C. G. Higgins, Br.-General Hon. A. E. Dalzell, Colonel F. H. Stapleton, Colonel J. A. Pollock, Lieut.-Colonel H. L. Ruck-Keene, Lieut.-Colonel B. C. T. Paget, Lieut.-Colonel A. J. N. Bartlett, Major J. J. Powell, Major L. F. Scott, Major A. V. Spencer, Major G. F. Mockler, Major A. Bridgewater, Captain L. Fullbrook Leggatt, Captain C. A. Hutchins, Captain W. Lindop, Captain F. M. Roberts, Captain C. W. H. Bailie, Captain D. C. Colvill, Captain S. C. P. Slattery, Captain W. L. Barnard, Captain L. W. Giles, Lieut. J. A. Theobalds, Lieut. M. H. S. Last, Lieut. E. C. Richards, Lieut. C. T. Moody, W. Eccles Thompson, W. Rance,

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H. Broome, C. Whiting, W. H. Elliman, G. Smallpiece, G. R. Reeve, A. Regan, H. Tyrell, W. H. Whitton, J. Proberts, T. Grimshaw, G. Soanes, W. Arnold, H. J. Cox, A. W. Hazel, H. Wake, G. Bryan, A. Beare, W. King, P. Newport, J. Hatwell, G. Edmonds, R. M. Coulson, W. J. Martin, J. Ashby, E. Arnall, F. Bradley, G. Henderson, etc., etc.

A wreath was laid on the Regimental War Memorial and it was suggested that in future a short service be held on this occasion.

Many members who had served in India for a number of years took this opportunity of attending the function, thus enabling them to meet many of their old comrades with whom they had formerly served.

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# POLO, 1929

## Second Battalion

After our experience in the tournaments last year, we concentrated on collecting ponies with enough quality to compete against the high class of pony played in Calcutta, and by the end of last winter we had indeed a magnificent lot, including six potentially first-class young ponies bought "off the boat."

The practical joke department at Simla must have got wind of our ambitious plans and couldn't resist the temptation to order us to Burma; hence, for the second time in eight years, we have had to sell out complete.

However, we had some compensation in realizing some good prices, which will give us a little working capital for collecting a new string.

In fact, a beginning has been made in this direction by cabling to Australia for some 13·2 walers, and their arrival is causing keen excitement.

We have lost several old players during the year, notably Conant, who built up Regimental polo after leaving the frontier and led the team in many tournaments, also winning the Dehra Dun Challenge Cup in 1927.

His vigorous play and fine string of ponies are missed here, but we congratulate him on his successful season at home playing for Melton.

Whitfeld, Kilburn and Stephens have also left.

The latter's fierce bumping was always stimulating

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to watch (and hear), though I think he will agree with the remark that he has had more luck shooting game than goals.

However, others have arrived to fill the gaps.

The Colonel found two first-class ponies ready for him and went straight into the game.

We hope to carry out such rush tactics directly on arrival in Burma as to get polo started at once, but hear rather gloomy reports about shortage of ponies.

Calcutta has not been a good station for Regimental polo; although there has been some activity on the part of individuals and we won two small tournaments.

Booth and Conant went to Patna last January to play for Calcutta and Dharbangha respectively in the local tournaments.

Neither side had much success, rain ruined the tournament, and after the first chukker the ground was quite a fair representation of "No Man's Land."

Most of us played in a small pick up tournament in March, organised to give the one pony man a chance, to improve on the usual chukkers, and to add a little interest to the game.

The Colonel, Whitfeld and Stephens went through to the semi-final in the same team, but the rest of us "also ran."

At the end of March a team consisting of:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Stephen | 1 |
| Whitfeld | 2 |
| Booth | 3 |
| Colonel Sanderson, back. | |

went to Jamshedpur for a small week-end tournament.

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The players in this district consist mostly of men from the local ironworks, who have taken up the game and are making a very sporting effort to get it started.

Khargpur and Gamshedpur were the only other two teams entered, so we decided to play each other twice for two chukkers each.

On the first day we had a fairly comfortable game against Gamshedpur, defeating them by three goals to nil, but the other team kept us going all out.

After an exciting game we won by two goals to one.

Playing the same teams on the following Monday, we rushed Khargpur, kept a good lead and beat them by three goals to one, but in the second game against Gamshedpur, Stephens was badly winded riding into a bony back and the rest of us were rather done by the intense heat.

Gamshedpur got a lead of one goal soon after the throw in and kept it until the middle of the last chukker, when we drew level. After that a run down the ground by Booth ending in a rather lucky goal, gave us the game.

Only four teams entered for the Khargpur tournament held in the following week-end, so in order to give everyone plenty of games it was decided that all teams should play each other for two chukkers. Hughes played instead of Stephens, otherwise our team was the same as before, and Vernon and Metcalfe linked up with two Calcutta Light Horsemen to make a team called the " Hybrids."

On the first day we defeated Calcutta Light Horse by four goals to one, having had the best of the game throughout.

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On the second day we received a rude shock from the Hybrids, whom we expected to give us an easy game.

We pulled out our slower ponies for the first chukker and let them get a lead of two goals (having received one on handicap), which would not have been easy to bring down in the remaining chukker, if they hadn't collapsed.

The final score was five goals to three in our favour.

On the third day we met our old opponents, Khargpur, who had also won their two previous games; so this match constituted a final, thus adding a certain amount of excitement.

Khargpur were very determined to reverse the last week's result, and gave us by far the best of all the games in the two tournaments. The first chukker was fast and furious and left us one goal down. In the last chukker Booth scored off a centre from Whitfeld, and Hughes got another goal just before time, thereby winning the tournament. Final score, two goals to one.

We played station polo in Calcutta up to the end of June when the rain broke, stopping all play until the beginning of November, by which time nearly every pony had been sold.

Booth and Whitfeld managed to get a little polo in Lebong with our friends, the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, because Motley, the Colonel's pony, was conveniently summering up there.

In September, Booth went on a month's leave to Ranchi, to sell the ponies not considered saleable in Calcutta and to play in the local tournament.

On the former count the trip met with some success

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in that Stephen's "Bucephalus" changed ownership, and on the latter count he was lucky enough to play in the Government House team which won the tournament.

On arrival in Burma everybody was most pessimistic and told us that there was no chance of buying any more ponies as there would be none for sale.

In the first week we bought our first pony in Burma, true he can only see out of one eye, but is a very good station game pony, only cost Rs.150, and being a charger is fed free.

Although it is never sound to buy second rate polo ponies this was too good to be missed, and now Hughes, at any rate temporarily, is the proud owner.

Now that we have been three weeks in the country one finds that owners are not averse to selling provided that they can see a nice little profit for themselves.

The Colonel has bought three and Tolson is in treaty for another, in addition to which we have at least two more on the tapis.

All those purchased or in view are supposed to be first-class tournament ponies, one the second best pony in Burma. We hope that they will prove themselves to be so, but as we cannot get delivery until after the Mandalay tournament at the end of the month, we have not had much chance of experimenting.

At any rate the project of entering a team for the April tournaments, which had been entirely abandoned, is looming again on the horizon.

These notes cannot be closed without a word about the work done by Philip Booth.

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Apart from his energy and keenness at polo he has proved himself a wonderful salesman.

He will never take "No" for an answer, and we all have cause to be very grateful to him for the way he sold our ponies, and the excellent prices he obtained.

We hope that next year we shall be able to give an account of polo in the Regiment in Burma in full swing, our young ponies doing well and some attempt, at any rate, to compete in the tournaments of Burma, only one of which has ever been won by a Regiment and that by the Royal Welch Fusiliers when the 43rd were in Burma in 1909.

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# SHOOTING, 1929

## Second Battalion

The results this year are meagre. Shooting has been the exception rather than, as it used to be, the rule. This is disappointing, because there must be an apostolic succession of Regimental Shikaris, and each succeeding generation must take on from its predecessors if shooting experience is not to be dearly bought when it restarts. It is not altogether easy to find the reasons: to some extent the counter-attractions of Calcutta and their attendant expense may be responsible.

In February, Martin Stephens went down the sunderbunds and had some fun with a "Buff," in March and April Keith Horan, Hammy and Mrs. Hammy braved the heat of the C.P. and spent two months in the Hoshangabad Division. Hammy got a tiger and Keith who has been fruitlessly pursuing the great cat (Stripes as *Daily Mail* would have us call him) for fifteen years had shocking luck not to gather one he hit in the jaw, which was subsequently reported to have been found dead in a cave.

In June, Stephens went down to the C.P., and got two tigers and in September, Palmer went back to Kumaon. He got some gooral and small game and some decent mahseer fishing, but had to come back before the end of his leave owing to the re-organisation.

"Firpo" Ward went up to Tibet (the Indian Infantry Detachment at Gyantse) and shot a gazelle and a bharral, and had a most interesting trip.

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Just before we left Calcutta, Stephens, Wykeham, Ward and Metcalfe had two days shoot on the Chilka Lake, and got 76 duck and a goose. Of course, they ought to have got far more as it is such a superlatively good shoot, but then one always ought. The old Light Division veteran said that the way to learn the art of war was " by fighting, and a damned lot of it." Certainly for four young shooters who have never been on a big duck shoot the way to learn is by " aiming and a damned lot of it." But wild horses couldn't have got the number of cartridges they fired out of them.

It might at this point be interesting to review the amount shot in India during the last seven and a half years, as our departure for Burma is the close of an epoch.

We have slain 302 head of big game recorded in the game book. This includes every species of the better known kinds, including 19 tigers. I do not include Nilgherri Tahr, Sind Ibex, Cabauli Markhor and other definitely local kinds. Of these Richards has got 34 head, Conant 42 head (including 32 head in Africa), Stephens 44 head, and Ames 23 head. These are the biggest individual bags. As two of those mentioned have captained the polo team and the other two have made periodic, if undistinguished, appearances therein, it cannot be said that shooting and polo cannot go together, for none of these four are of the modern rich, and one at least is one of the fine old pre-war penurious.

The truth of the matter is that the upkeep of the odd pony and the slaughter of the local fauna do not run away with an undue amount of money. It is those vermouths sharpened by the addition of gin, those little parties to young females, the upkeep of

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that motor vehicle which dissipates this world's goods.

In India the sport is first rate. The idea that one must spend one's time in the club, seeing the other fellow's point of view, seems to me to hold no particular water if the other fellow's point of view is a bad one.

I live to meet the man who when he gets into the jungle does not admit that it is preferable to talking to second-rate people over third-rate drinks in a fourth-rate club.

The aggressive "Senior Sub," the stern Adjutant driving young officers against their will to the shrofs for the upkeep of high priced ponies or the expense of an almost viceregal shoot, to the whitening of the few remaining hairs in the shingle of a widowed mother, is a chimera in the overwrought brain of a female reporter of the halfpenny press. For like de Lisle I live to see the Subaltern who was turned out of his Regiment for debts incurred in shooting and no other way.

["Werry good indeed—werry good indeed, sir;" Say it's the sport of kings, the image of. That's the stuff to give 'em. One good tournament pony is worth all the love and vermouth that has ever been mixed together.—ED.]

RESULTS, 1929

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Buffalo | 3 | Gooral | 5 |
| Tiger | 3 | Bharral | 1 |
| Cheetul | 1 | Tibetian Gazelle | 1 |
| Nilghai | 1 | Jungle Fowl | 15 |
| Chinkara | 1 | Teal and Duck | 76 |
| Boar | 1 | Geese | 1 |
| Snipe | 52 | Peacock | 4 |
| Blood Pheasant | 3 | Chikor | 15 |
| Mahseer | 12 | | |

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## THE REGIMENTAL CRICKET WEEK, 1929

THIS annual event took place on June 22nd to 26th and followed the lines of previous weeks with its usual round of social engagements. The full scores of the matches are appended and in these it will be seen that fortune did not smile too handsomely upon us. We were only able to secure one victory at the expense of Colonel Wynter's XI, his last appearance we are afraid on the Depot ground for a few years, in the others we were defeated. In the second match against the Gentlemen of Buckinghamshire we were hopelessly outclassed, with the result that we spent many hours out in the field and very few at the wicket —the whole side being trundled out in rapid succession.

In the match against Colonel Ashton's XI we were beaten by six wickets, a result which we hardly expected; unfortunately our bowlers could not find their true form and we were compelled to watch our opponents knock up the runs in a short space of time. The Sandhurst Wanderers found us without several of our usual team owing to the demands of the Army Individual Sports which claimed Graham and West, and in consequence they ran home winners by five wickets.

In spite of this rather sad result the cricket week, with the exception of the weather, was as successful as ever; 62 sat down to luncheon on the Regimental Day and many friends joined us in the afternoon on the cricket field. An All-Ranks dance and one in the Officers' Mess took place on the Monday and Thursday evenings.



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Lieut.-Colonel W. F. J. McCann, who commands the 43rd Battalion, Australian Infantry, happened to be in England at the time and so came and paid the Depot a visit on the Saturday, arriving in time for the luncheon and thus was able to meet a very large gathering of officers and friends.

FIRST DAY—JUNE 22, 1929

THE REGIMENT v. LIEUT.-COLONEL S. E. ASHTON'S XI

*Innings of the Regiment*

| | |
|---|---|
| Capt. L. W. Giles, M.C., c. Daly, b. Sykes | 54 |
| Lieut. E. Smith, b. Brownrigg | 33 |
| Sgt. Millett, b. Daly | 54 |
| Lieut. M. A. R. West, b. Mack | 15 |
| Capt. H. E. F. Smyth, M.C., c. and b. Daly | 13 |
| Lieut. J. P. A. Graham, b. Daly | 19 |
| C.Q.M.S. Bull, M.M., b. Sykes | 16 |
| Major R. J. Brett, D.S.O., b. Daly | 16 |
| Lieut. R. H. Doyne, b. Daly | 1 |
| Mr. W. Whitton, not out | 2 |
| Pte. Busby, did not bat | 0 |
| Extras | 25 |
| Total | 248 |

Major Daly took 5 wickets for 53 runs.

*Innings of Lieut.-Col. Ashton's XI*

| | |
|---|---|
| Capt. Sykes, lbw. b. Millett | 11 |
| S. C. B. Lee, b. West | 66 |
| E. G. H. Mack, b. Graham | 0 |
| J. Brownrigg, not out | 80 |
| Sir R. Gull, c. West, b. Millett | 32 |
| Col. J. T. Weatherby, not out | 40 |
| Extras | 26 |
| Total for 4 wickets | 255 |

Major Daly, Major Muirhead, E. W. Weatherby, J. Clerke Brown and S. E. Ashton did not bat.

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SECOND DAY—JUNE 24, 1929

THE REGIMENT v. GENTLEMEN OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

*Innings of Gentlemen of Bucks.*

| | |
|---|---|
| R. H. J. Brooke, lbw., b. Millett | 35 |
| A. James, c. Manning, b. Millett | 96 |
| E. Mallinson, b. Busby | 7 |
| A. G. Skinner, b. West | 163 |
| J. C. R. Clover, c. and b. Graham | 0 |
| C. Bray, c. Grant, b. Busby | 67 |
| W. B. Franklin, not out | 5 |
| O. G. Battock, b. West | 3 |
| Extras | 17 |
| Total for 7 wickets declared | 393 |

V. Lund, R. H. Rutter, C. Foster did not bat.

*Innings of the Regiment*

| | |
|---|---|
| Capt. L. W. Giles, M.C., c. and b. Battock | 0 |
| Lieut. E. Smith, b. Rutter | 0 |
| Mr. E. Grant, b. Rutter | 7 |
| Sgt. Millett, b. Battock | 18 |
| Lieut. M. A. R. West, c. and b. Lund | 12 |
| Lieut. H. J. C. D. Hamersley, c. Clover, b. Lund | 4 |
| Pte. Manning, c. Mallinson, b. Rutter | 1 |
| Lieut. J. P. A. Graham, c. and b. Rutter | 10 |
| C.Q.M.S. Bull, c. Clover, b. Lund | 8 |
| Bdms. Mackinson, run out | 0 |
| Pte. Busby, not out | 0 |
| Extras | 4 |
| Total | 64 |

R. H. Rutter took 4 wickets for 44.

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THIRD DAY—JUNE 25, 1929

THE REGIMENT v. COLONEL H. W. WYNTER'S XI

*Innings of Colonel Wynter's XI*

| | |
|---|---|
| M. B. Turner, b. Graham | 0 |
| C. G. Nicholson, b. Millett | 0 |
| G. N. Capel Cure, c. Graham, b. Millett | 12 |
| H. G. Patterson, not out | 86 |
| R. I. B. Snook, b. Graham | 0 |
| A. D. Pelling, b. Busby | 18 |
| T. H. Wilson, b. Graham | 8 |
| T. R. F. Peel, c. and b. Busby | 9 |
| H. S. Maxwell Gumbleton, not out | 52 |
| Extras | 9 |
| Total for 7 wickets declared | 194 |

Col. C. A. Lyon and Col. H. W. Wynter did not bat.

*Innings of the Regiment*

| | |
|---|---|
| Mr. E. Grant, not out | 74 |
| Lieut. H. J. C. D. Hamersley, b. M. Gumbleton | 0 |
| Sgt. Millett, b. M. Gumbleton | 23 |
| Lieut. E. Smith, c. Peel, b. Lyon | 35 |
| Lieut. M. A. R. West, b. Lyon | 0 |
| Lieut. J. P. A. Graham, c. M. Gumbleton, b. C. Cure | 36 |
| C.Q.M.S. Bull, not out | 16 |
| Extras | 30 |
| Total for 5 wickets | 212 |

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FOURTH DAY—JUNE 26, 1929

THE REGIMENT v. SANDHURST WANDERERS

*Innings of the Regiment*

| | |
|---|---|
| Capt. L. W. Giles, M.C., c. Russell, b. Fitzmaurice | 9 |
| Lieut. H. J. C. D. Hamersley, c. Tilly, b. Russell | 12 |
| Mr. E. Grant, b. Russell | 66 |
| Sgt. Millett, c. Campbell, b. Forsyth | 35 |
| Capt. W. L. Barnard, not out | 35 |
| Rec. Welch, b. Russell | 0 |
| Pte. Jackson, c. Tilly, b. Russell | 4 |
| Pte. Manning, c. Feversham, b. Fitzmaurice | 5 |
| C.Q.M.S. Bull, b. Russell | 8 |
| Mr. W. Whitton, b. Russell | 0 |
| Pte. Busby, lbw. b. Russell | 4 |
| Extras | 10 |
| Total | 188 |

G. H. Russell took 7 wickets for 59 runs.

*Innings of Sandhurst Wanderers*

| | |
|---|---|
| J. B. E. Radcliffe, b. Busby | 14 |
| A. C. B. Maunsell, lbw., b. Millett | 14 |
| C. L. Troop, not out | 82 |
| Major N. F. C. Mulloy, c. Busby, b. Millett | 9 |
| A. Tilley, b. Whitton | 31 |
| Capt. J. E. Fitzmaurice, b. Welch | 8 |
| G. H. Russell, not out | 26 |
| Capt. B. M. S. Foljambe, Capt. I. E. F. Campbell, Capt. M. S. Feversham, H. W. Forsyth | did not bat. |
| Extras | 22 |
| Total for 5 wickets | 206 |

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## THE REGIMENTAL RACE, 1929

THE Regimental Race was held on April 13th in conjunction with the Pegasus Club Point-to-Point over the South Oxfordshire Course at Poppet's Hill.

The Course was exactly the same as it has been for the last three years, and, thanks to some timely rain on the day and night before, the going was good.

Owing to many horse casualties, which are referred to elsewhere, in Point-to-Point news, there were very few entries and only seven starters.

Without in any way wishing to disparage the excellent performance of the winner, the class, in our opinion, was not as good as usual.

The weather was not too gracious to us. It had started to snow on Friday evening and it was still raining when the horses for the first race went to the post.

Ours was the second race on the card and though it was still dull and grey, the rain had actually stopped.

The result was as follows :—

Mr. Edmund's Jarge (owner) 1.
Mr. Boileau's Bumble-Bee (owner) 2.
Mr. Bernard's Bicester (owner) 3.
Also ran: Mr. Last's Sportsman XXII (owner), Capt. Meade's Rebel Girl (owner), Mr. Conant's Rufus (owner), Mr. Conant's Bronco (Mr. Falkiner).
Won by a length, 10 lengths between second and third.

Jarge carried a penalty of 7 lbs. for a win last year. The rest weighed out at 12 st. 7 lbs.

The field got away without delay to a level start,

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and on coming to the first fence Jarge on the right, Bumble-Bee in the centre and Bicester on the left, were first to show in front with Bronco in close attendance. Rebel Girl was close up with Sportsman and Rufus whipping in.

Coming to the stands the first time, Jarge was making the running from Bumble-Bee and Sportsman, with Bicester and the others lying close up.

Going out into the country again Jarge was still in the lead; his jockey, evidently having no doubts about his stamina, was waiting in front.

At the open ditch Rebel Girl refused and ran out across Rufus which lost them both a good many lengths.

At the top of the hill, Jarge, was still going strong but Bumble-Bee was not far behind him, and it looked 100—1 bar two.

At the fence before the post and rails, Bronco and his jockey parted company.

Coming down to the water, Sportsman and Bicester were making up ground. Bumble-Bee challenged Jarge two fences from home and led over the next fence by half a length. Jarge however came again and in a great finish got the better of Bumble Bee by a length, with Bicester 10 lengths away third.

Sportsman fell at the last fence but one when lying third. He rolled on his jockey who, however, luckily escaped with a bent rib.

Rebel Girl was the only other to finish.

At a meeting held at Cowley Barracks after the annual Regimental Point-to-Point dinner, the following motion was put to the meeting and carried unanimously: "That Captain Meade be directed to

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replace 'Rebel Girl' in his string by another race horse, and to give guarantees that the said 'Rebel Girl' shall not from this day forth consume any more Government rations or appear again on any public or private race course." [In view of the apparent severity of this sentence, the Editor has been at pains to look up the records of that noble animal "Rebel Girl," and can only say that, in his opinion, the sentence was fully justified. Later News.—The Editor regrets to hear now that "Rebel Girl," since the passing of this sentence, has paid the "extreme penalty." *De mortuis*, etc., etc.]

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# TEAM RACES

## 43rd Light Infantry and 2nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade

The 5th Annual Team Race against the 2nd Bn. Rifle Brigade took place on April 4th at the Old Berkshire Point-to-Point, which was held at Badbury Hill, near Faringdon, over about 3½ miles of good hunting country, chiefly all grass.

The fences were all made up, black and stiff, on the principle of the regulation fence, and although not very big, could not be chanced. The course also included amongst other obstacles, an open ditch, a small but stiff post and rails, a piece of open water and a very respectable sized water jump.

Before describing the race itself, we feel that some record of the disasters that befell the Regiment should be placed on paper. Our team as originally suggested, would have consisted of five thoroughbred horses and a Point-to-Point winner. Our bad luck started in the summer when Graham's Firey Star had to be destroyed after being badly damaged in a chaff cutter. During the winter, Clarke's Safety injured herself when hunting with the New Forest, and could not come out again. Clifton's Shady Bird went lame in February and was also out of it. Doyne's Ferryman ruptured a suspensory ligament which finished him for the season. The final disaster was on the Saturday before the race, when Edmund's thoroughbred horse broke his back in the Whaddon Chase Point-to-Point.

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On the same day Doyne received information that Sunny Rambler was lame and would be unable to run. This left us with a team consisting of three private horses one of which was not really fit (Bicester) and three old Government plugs. At the same time we must remember that the R.B. had also suffered some casualties.

The race.—After a little delay at the post caused by Bumble-Bee's jockey readjusting his stirrup leathers, the field of twelve got away from a level start. The Hen soon went into the lead with Rebel Girl, Hereford, Conqueror, Jarge, Surprise and Dolly in close attendance, followed by Fanlight, Evangeline, Bicester and Warrior, in that order. At the open ditch, Rebel Girl made a mistake, but the jockey recovered without losing more than 2 or 3 lengths.

The same order was maintained until the fence before the post and rails, when Rebel Girl jumped outside the flag and lost many lengths. After the post and rails the pace which had never been slow, improved considerably, but the Hen could not shake off Conqueror, Hereford, Jarge, Surprise and Bumble-Bee. The second contingent who by this time had lost some ground, maintained the same order except that Rebel Girl fell at the post and rails and at the open water, and Warrior tailed right off owing to many refusals.

At the third fence from home, the water jump, the first contingent were still in a bunch, but Hereford was improving his position. At the next fence, Surprise fell and broke her neck, giving her jockey a very severe shaking.

The Hen having made all her own running, won

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by half a length from Hereford, with Jarge four lengths away third, Conqueror was only beaten out of a place by a head with Bumble-Bee close up fifth, the remainder finished in the following order: Dolly, Fanlight, Evangeline, Bicester.

The R.B. thus won by 41 points to 31.

We hope that the death of Surprise may at last be the end of our run of bad luck, as she is the seventh horse, belonging to an officer of the Regiment, which has had to be destroyed within the last twelve months.

The teams were as follows:

RIFLE BRIGADE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lieut.-Col. Crosbie's | Evangeline | Owner |
| Lieut.-Col. Crosbie's | Hereford | Mr. Troyte Bullock |
| Major Tod's | Warrior | Mr. Allan |
| Major Alston's | Fanlight | Mr. Nicholl |
| Capt. Stopford's | Dolly | Mr. Purdon |
| Mr. Poole's | The Hen | Owner |

43RD LIGHT INFANTRY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mr. Doyne's | Surprise | Owner |
| Mr. Boileau's | Bumble-Bee | Owner |
| Major Portal's | Conqueror | Mr. Graham |
| Mr. Bernard's | Bicester | Owner |
| Mr. Edmund's | Jarge | Owner |
| Capt. Meade's | Rebel Girl | Owner |

This was the fifth and final team race for the Challenge Cup presented by the Regiment.

The R.B. having now won it three times retain it.

## 43RD LIGHT INFANTRY, 60TH RIFLES AND 2ND CHESHIRE REGT.

The Craven Hunt Point-to-Point Committee again this year very kindly offered to present a cup for a race to be held at their Hunt Meeting on April 20 between

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the 2nd Bn. Cheshire Regiment and ourselves. The 60th Rifles were asked to join in as well, so that the race became a triangular contest.

It was agreed to have teams of four aside. The race was held near Shefford Woodlands over the same course as last year. A galloping course with small made-up fences, two posts and rails and two sheep pens. The going was extremely hard, even on the usually springy turf of that part of the country.

The following horses ran :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 60TH RIFLES | |
| Capt. Barker's | Crumlin Lass | Owner |
| Capt. Barker's | Elfin | |
| Mr. Armytage's | Pepper Box | Owner |
| A. N. Other | | Mr. Oxley |
| | 2ND CHESHIRE REGT. | |
| Capt. Hassall's | Jimmy Nelson | Owner |
| Mr. Stotherd's | Southern Error | Owner |
| Mr. Wigham's | Ginger Bread | Owner |
| Mr. Eyre's | Ballyragett | Owner |
| | 43RD LIGHT INFANTRY | |
| Major Portal's | Conqueror | Owner |
| Mr. Edmund's | Jarge | Owner |
| Hon. C. Bernard's | Bicester | Owner |
| Mr. Boileau's | Bumble Bee | Owner |

The day was fine, but there was a very cold east wind blowing.

After a false start the field of twelve got away well together. Over the first fence Southern Error led from Crumlin Lass with Jarge and Bumble-Bee next in order ; the remainder were split up behind.

Halfway this order was maintained with Conqueror lying about eighth and Bicester bringing up the rear with Ballyragett and Elfin in close attendance.

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The pace was very fast and the field strung out over a distance of about 200 yards.

Close home, Southern Error though tiring, still led from Crumlin Lass with Jarge and Bumble-Bee still close behind.

Over the last fence Crumlin Lass challenged and having the better speed in the run-in won by a length and a half: Jarge third ten lengths away, followed by Bumble-Bee, Pepper Box, Jimmy Nelson, a 60th horse, Conqueror, Ginger Bread, Elfin, Bicester, and Ballyragett. There were no falls or refusals.

The final points were:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1st | 60th .. .. | 29 points. |
| 2nd | 43rd .. .. | 26 points. |
| 3rd | Cheshire Regt. | 23 points. |

## Isle of Wight Hunt Point-to-Point Races

These were held at Tapnell, near Yarmouth on March 14th. The course was about 3½ miles of typical hunting country. In spite of the recent frost, the going was good except for one field which was hard, whilst the weather was ideal.

The Regiment provided thirteen of the twenty-nine starters.

The fun began with the members' heavyweight race, which resulted in a great finish between Mr. Cowper-Blake's Reversion (Graham) and Mrs. Fleming's The Fox (Major Fleming), the former catching the judge's eye to win by a head, with Boileau's Bumble-Bee (owner) and Captain Street's Molly (Meade) amongst the also ran.

The next event was the Farmer's Race, which was

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followed by the Regimental Chargers' Race, in which the following came under the starter's orders :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Portal's | Conqueror (14 lbs. extra) | Owner |
| Giles's | The Circus | Owner |
| Burt-Smith's | Guy Fawkes | Owner |
| Spence's | Ricochet | Owner |
| Branson's | Herr Opel | Owner |
| Doyne's | Surprise (7 lbs. extra) | Owner |
| Clarke's | Ruby | Owner |
| Meade's | Gone Away | Owner |
| West's | Starlight | Owner |

Hamersley's Tier Park was entered but did not run.

The field got away to a good start, with Gone Away and Starlight in front. Coming past the stands first time, Starlight was making the running from Conqueror, and Surprise with Ruby and Gone Away whipping in.

Two fences after the stands Herr Opel fell. On coming to the road, the first time, in the same order, Conqueror and Starlight ran out and Surprise went into the lead, followed by Ruby.

Guy Fawkes then went up second, but fell at the next fence. Going over the water, Surprise had increased her lead and was followed by Ruby, Gone Away, Conqueror, The Circus, Starlight, and Ricochet.

Coming to the road on the far side, Conqueror, now lying second, ran out, taking Ruby and the Circus with him.

Surprise fell at the next fence, but was remounted and remained well in the lead from Starlight, Gone Away, Ruby, The Circus, and Ricochet.

Ricochet fell at the drop fence, but was remounted. The same order was maintained until the third fence

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from home. Here Surprise was increasing his lead, from Starlight, but Ruby now began her run and passed The Circus and Gone Away.

Surprise went on to win by a distance, a great finish for second place resulting in Ruby beating Starlight by a length for second place.

Gone Away, The Circus, and Ricochet were the only others to finish.

The members' lightweight race followed which was won by Mr. Jolliffe's Milkman (owner), from Mrs. Street's Kruschen (Graham) with Mr. Leonard's Gay Boy (owner) third. Bernard's Bicester (owner) also ran.

Finally came the Nomination Race in which Mrs. Portal's Billy (owner) was third.

## Other Races

Colonel Hon. Gerald Foljambe scored the following wins during the past year with his horses, all being trained by the owner.

Ages for 1929 given.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Donzelon, 8 yrs., by Chaucer—Tortor | Won Nat. Hunt Handicap Chase, Cheltenham | March 14th 10.4 (G. Turner) |
| | Scottish Grand National, Bogside | April 20th 11.5 (R. Lyall) |
| | Quorn Hunt Chase, Leicester | December 3rd 11.12 (R. Lyall) |
| Royal Scott, 4 yrs., by Royal Lancer—Scotch Opera | Won Cowthorpe Hurdle, Wetherby | October 23rd 11.2 (R. Lyall) |
| | Won Leckhampton Novices Chase, Cheltenham | December 31st 10.5 (R. Lyall) |

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pixie, 4 yrs., by Battle Axe—Persimona | Won Elvaston Chase, Nottingham | December 9th 10.9 (R. Lyall) |
| Inverse, 3 yrs., by St. Girons—Inversion | Won Ainsty Juvenile Hurdle, Wetherby | October 23rd 10.9 (R. Lyall) |
| | Won Maiden Juvenile Hurdle, Towcester | October 26th 10.7 (R. Lyall) |
| | Won Juvenile Hurdle, Wolverhampton | November 4th (R. Lyall) 11.3 |

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# HUNTING, 1928–1929

## First Battalion

The season was a bad one, as in all parts of England hunting was stopped by frost soon after Christmas, and only odd days could be snatched from then on until the end of February, the frost then left us and was followed by very hot summer-like weather.

There had been no rain between so the ground remained hard, which did not suit some of our horses.

The opening meet was, as usual, at the Bugle Hotel, Newport. The field was to a great extent composed of ourselves, as twelve of us were out. Rowridge and Fernie Bottom were drawn and several foxes were set on foot. One was hunted to High Wood where hounds had to be stopped owing to shooting, and another was then hunted over Rowborough Down back to Fernie Bottom over Cheverton Down and on to Rancomb where scent failed.

Two of the best hunts took place from meets at the Kennels. The first one was on November 26th. A fox from Westridge was hunted through Long and Short Copse, straight to Dungewood Farm where he was killed in the open. It was a nice bit of country, but few of us were with hounds as we got baulked by wire at the beginning. Spence took a toss and when he got up found he had only his bridle with him. The Master was very disgusted when he found himself side by side, in a gateway, with a riderless and bridle-less horse, which he tried to catch by his ears.



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The second hunt, from there, took place on January 21st, when our fox took us straight past Durshot down to the sea and back again towards Samber Hill, near which scent failed, after a nice hunt of about 45 minutes.

We tried to hunt on the days of the two great gales on November 16 and 23. On the first day Burt Smith and Bernard gave up hunting the fox and hunted their hats instead; on the second day there was quite a good hunt over Brightstone Down, until our fox turned into the teeth of the gale and hounds and horses refused to move against it.

Another good hunt took place on February 1, after a meet at Ningwood. Hounds drew the local covert blank and then went on to the downs where it was very cold and nothing was done until 2 p.m., by which time nearly everyone had gone home. However, a fox was eventually found in Westover Gorse, and after being hunted twice round Calbourne and Chessell went away from the gorse a third time and was hunted to Newridge, thence right-handed to Five Houses and fast through Monkham over the hills to Dewcombe where hounds ran from scent to view and killed their fox. A good hunt of one and half hours and a five mile point. Boileau and Graham who were out hacking, ran into hounds soon after the beginning of this hunt and were about the only people to see it.

The meet at Barracks took place on March 8, after having been postponed twice owing to frost. A large field turned out, including eleven people from the regiment. We had a ringing hunt on the downs, in which we were badly caught by wire which has been put up by the Forestry Commission: two people at

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least jumped the wire (by accident) but did not come to grief.

A fox found later in Fernie Bottom ran over Newbarn Down and Brightstone Down, where he turned left-handed and pointed for Coombe, he then swung right-handed and hounds ran him to Black Barrow where they killed him.

Branson had a good fall near the beginning of the season. He was eating his sandwiches when he suddenly found himself under his horse's forelegs, from which he was gently transferred to its hindlegs and thence rather less gently by a lusty kick to the ground several yards away, where he lay disconsolate for a while. Luckily little damage was done and he recovered later.

Meade and Doyne were one day offered the horn. Another day Meade and Bernard sitting together in a ride in the forest were told "You've bitched the 'ole 'unt, you two bloody fools!" (The fox had gone to ground.)

After a disappointing season the last meet took place on April 15th.

Several people also had one or two nice days with Lady Hobart's harriers during the season.

A few also joined Packe with the beagles. He is now a full blown whipper-in to Mr. Mew's pack, who showed some very good sport.

Unfortunately the day they met at the Barracks there seemed to be no scent and very little was done.

The following horses hunted on the Island during the season:

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Bailie's Ashridge.
Meade's Gone Away.
Portal's Conqueror, Multum-in-Parvo, and Billy.
Burt Smith's Guy Fawkes.
Giles's The Circus.
Doyne's Surprise.
Randall's Nell.
Clarke's Safety and Ruby.
Graham's Royalec.
Branson's Herr Opel.
Bernard's Tarmac and Bicester.
West's March-a-Long and Starlight.
Clifton's Shady Bird.
Spence's Ricochet.
Boileau's Bumble-Bee.
Rowley's Tier Park.
Hamersley's Manilla.

Edmunds, who was on courses most of the winter, and Plowden, also hunted here.

Many of the horses were not here the whole season as they were taken away to hunt on the mainland during their owners' leave.

The six cavalry horses were a good lot and did us very well. We are sorry to hear that the 3rd Carabineers who lent them to us are leaving the Command, as they have been very good to us both this season and last in the horseflesh they have given us.

Our bad luck since coming to Parkhurst is worthy of record, as the death of Surprise in the Point-to-Point team race against the Rifle Brigade makes the seventh horse to be destroyed during the last twelve months. We hope this is the end of our misfortune.

## At the Depot

Owing to the excellent and enjoyable season we had had up till Christmas, the beginning of 1929 found us all imbued with tremendous zeal.

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Meade and Wynter had come to stay with their horses, and Crosbie joined us at the end of January, but kept his horses at Stratton Audley.

However, we were all doomed to disappointment as ten days in the middle of January and from February 11 till March 9, all hunting was stopped owing to frost.

The most outstandingly good hunt of the New Year with the South Oxfordshire was when after meeting at Hempton on January 23, they drew the Thame fox covert. This covert had provided the fox for the excellent hunt we had when they met at Tetsworth in the previous November; so when we came to draw it again we were full of great expectations and we were not to be disappointed. The account in the *Hunting Journal* is as follows:—"The Thame fox covert was then drawn and a fox was viewed stealing away up a hedgerow. There were a brace of foxes in the covert, but they did not detain hounds, who raced to Moreton Gap. Crossing Judds Lane and the Old Green Lane with Moreton Village comfortably to the right, most of the field presumed that the Old Paddock would be the point and they lost the remainder of the hunt. Hounds crossed the Thame road into North Weston and reached the river half a mile to the right of Shabbington Road bridge. Running on over the firm grass country below Long Crendon, hounds pointed for Hornage and after running between the wood and the farm checked beyond it. Bending across the Brill Road, and pointing straight for Dorton, the fox turned right-handed up the hill and got to ground on the top not far from Chilton. A brilliant gallop of fifty minutes with a six and a half mile point.

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On January 25, hounds met at the Barracks and by the help of soldiers, hounds, and yelling we managed to kill one of the innumerable foxes of the district. Shotover, Brasenose Wood and Open Magdalen, a most enjoyable day for the recruits, but miserable for anyone on a horse!

The season 1929–1930 opened with a most enjoyable day with the South Oxfordshire. The contingent who attended from the Depot consisted of Powell on a 15-bobber of a new but excellent vintage. Giles also on a 15-bobber of wild and dashing character! Richards on Sportsman, whom he had bought from Last; Barnard on Sunray and Fooks on his wonderful old mare, Delight.

The meet as usual was at the "Three Pigeons." The account in the JOURNAL runs as follows:—"Chowns Gorse was drawn blank, but hounds were soon on to a fox from Spartham Bog which ran past Latchford Hole and Bandage towards Tetsworth. Turning right-handed he twice crossed the Haseley Brook which claimed its usual toll of victims. He then turned once more towards the main road, but shortly bore to the right through Adwell. After swinging to the left he kept Weston on his right crossed the main road pointing for Mr. Brown's fox covert. Through this hounds pushed him and they eventually rolled him over in the roadside at Sydenham and so ended an excellent hunt of 90 minutes."

Graham has joined us this season with his two horses. The remainder of the season up to the end of the year has on the whole been disappointing owing chiefly to the bad weather and heavy going, but we hope our luck will change with the New Year.

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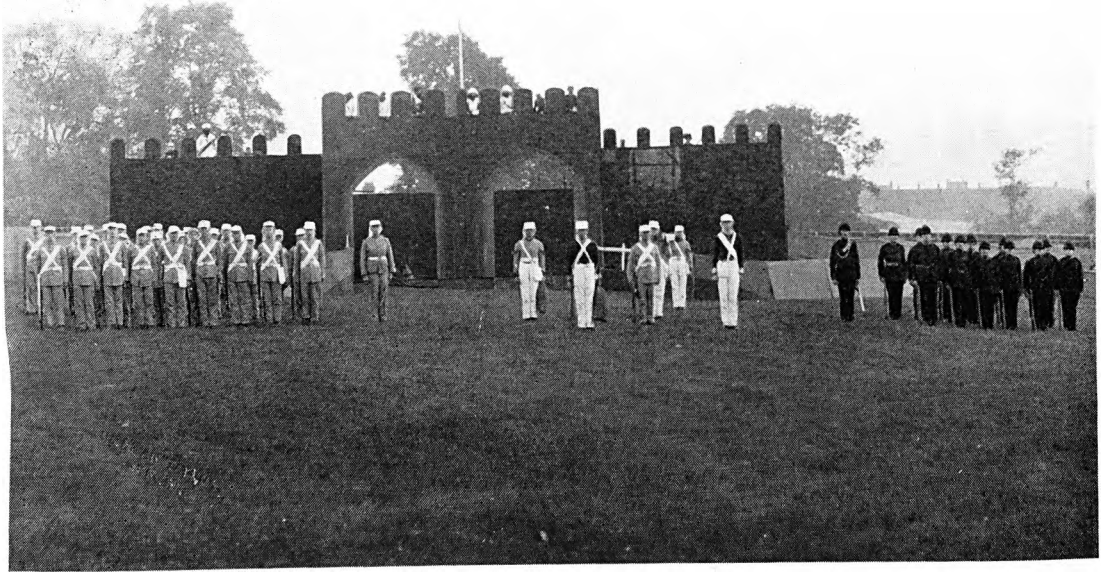

THE STORMING OF THE CASHMERE GATE, DELHI, 1857.

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# THE OXFORD SEARCHLIGHT TATTOO, 1929

ONCE again the Depot has produced another large Tattoo on similar lines to that of 1926. As full accounts of this have already been published in Volume V, No. 28, of the REGIMENTAL JOURNAL, it is unnecessary to give here more than the programme and a few facts concerning it to act as a permanent record of this big undertaking which was held in the South Park, Headington Hill, on the nights of September 3 to 7, 1929.

I had been pressed by all and sundry to put on another tattoo this year chiefly to help the Radcliffe Infirmary Extension Appeal Fund. After seeking the advice of many past officers, I decided to launch another venture which should be in aid of not only this fund, but also the Regimental Association, besides possibly acting as a stimulus to recruiting for the Regiment. The Regimental Committee allowed it to be produced under their auspices on the distinct understanding that no financial liability should fall on them. So, thanks largely to the generosity of many past officers, I raised a guarantee fund, which, even though it amounted to some £800, did not really cover my expenses, which steadily mounted as the date of the tattoo approached.

I was lucky to have at my disposal all the records of the successful tattoo of 1926 and so was able to start to a certain extent, where my predecessor had left off. I certainlyhad his success to act as an advertisement for mine.

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Major A. J. Muirhead, M.C., with the 399th (Oxfordshire Yeomanry) Field Battery R.A., and Colonel J. A. Ballard with the 4th Battalion promised to take part, the former by putting on a turn of his own and the two together by combining in the Modern Battle; both were excellent. Their assistance was most welcome and largely helped to make the tattoo the success it undoubtedly was. Our only regret was that distance from Oxford stopped the Bucks Battalion also from participating.

Arrangements were well in hand by July and those in charge of the different episodes were ready to start rehearsals as soon as the men were available.

The uniforms of 1926 were used, but more were required, especially for the Cashmere Gate, these were obtained from the 52nd at a very low figure. In addition to Mr. Grant, the Depot Master Tailor, Labh Singh, the tailor of the 52nd, was commissioned to make uniforms, or rather clothes, for the North West Frontier tribesmen. All the scenery was made and painted by Sgt. Dean, the Pioneer Sergeant of the 52nd, and Ptes. Keep and Shortman, the Depot Pioneers, with the exception of the Castle Gate and Towers which were part of that used in 1926.

The colours for the Story of the Colours proved the most interesting and at the same time the most difficult to produce, as accuracy was imperative. I had little to go on except the article on Regimental Colours which appeared in the REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE for 1895, page 128. Recourse was also had to *Colours and Standards of the Army*, 1661–1881, by S. M. Milne, by far the most accurate and reliable book on the subject, in fact it is almost the only

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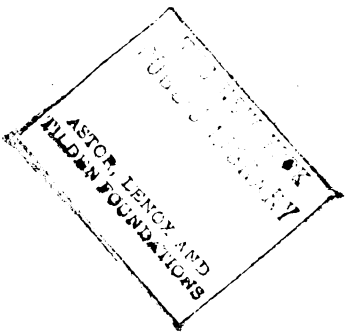


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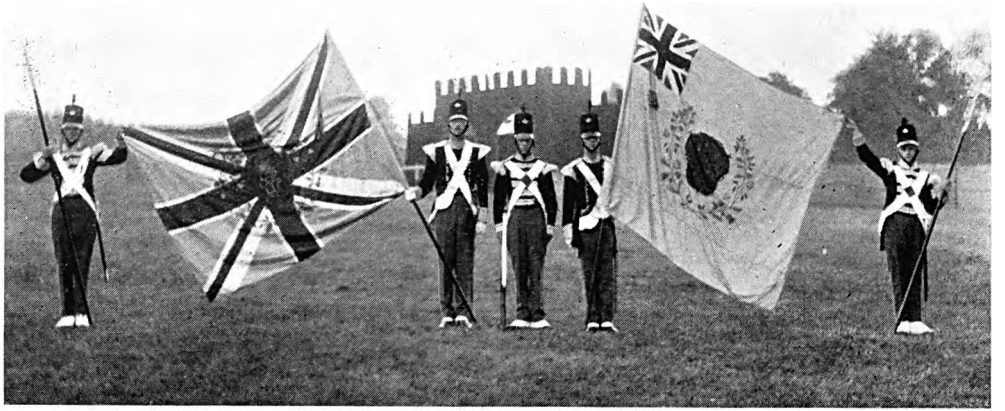

1815.

(Representing 3rd Set 52nd Colours presented in 1798.)

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available authority. It is one thing to look at a photograph of a colour in a book and quite another to produce the same thing six foot square in size and accurate in most details. Full-sized drawings of the centres and wreaths were done out which were copied on to material of the right colour and hue for the actual colour, these were then painted on in oil paints. Several ladies very kindly did some of these for us; they are to be congratulated on the accuracy and beauty of their work. The remaining colours were bought from Messrs. Clarkson, so now the Regiment possesses a very fair selection of the stands of colours of the past.

As in 1926, firms and friends in the City of Oxford were very helpful, and did all they could to make the Tattoo a success by giving their services free. The weather was magnificent, hardly a cloud in the sky the whole week, piping hot every night and not a single drop of rain.

Exclusive of the assistants behind and in front of the scenes, 25 officers and 377 other ranks took part in the Tattoo, found by the following units :—

The Permanent Staff and Recruits of the Depot.

399th (Oxfordshire Yeomanry) Field Battery, R.A. (T.A.).

4th Battalion Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry (T.A.).

Band and Buglers, 43rd Light Infantry.

Band and Buglers, 4th Battalion.

30th Fortress Company R.E. (searchlights).

Prior to the start of the programme, community singing took place for twenty minutes, accompanied

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by the 43rd Band, the actual programme being as follows :—

1. The Changing of the Guard, carried out by two guards in 1815 full dress and review order of 1914, furnished by the Depot with the 43rd Band.

2. Physical Training Display by :

(*a*) 8 selected N.C.O.'s and men of the Depot Permanent Staff who did chair tricks and horse work.

(*b*) A platoon of 24 recruits from the Depot of under 4 months' service, who carried out marching exercises, body exercises and horse work. The whole accompanied by the 4th Battalion Band.

3. Four Episodes of Regimental History, to show the conditions under which wars were fought at different periods in the history of the regiment.

(i) 1759. Canada. The Siege of Quebec. An attack on an outpost of the Grenadier Company, 43rd, by Red Indians and the subsequent counter attack.

(ii) 1809. Spain. Retreat to Corunna. Ptes. Walton and Jackson of the 43rd whilst on sentry from their piquet are attacked by French cavalry who had advanced under cover of a hay cart.

(iii) 1852. South Africa. The Kaffir War. A party of the 43rd are ambushed by Kaffirs who are driven off.

(iv) 1897. India. North-West Frontier Campaign. A sangar, garrisoned by the 52nd, is attacked by Mohmand tribesmen, who are eventually driven off.

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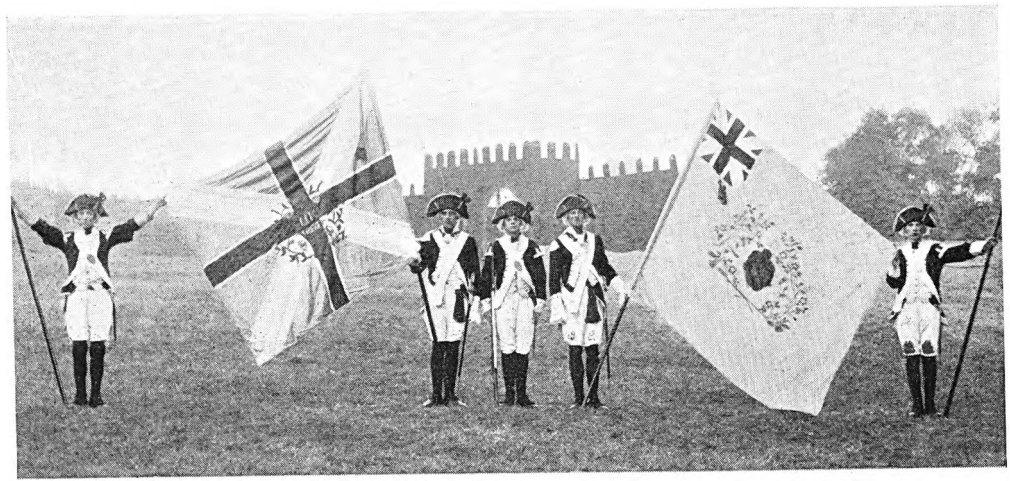

1790.

(Representing 2nd Set 52nd Colours brought into use 1779.)

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4. The sounding of First Post by 8 Buglers of 43rd and Depot.

5. (*a*) Band and Bugle marches by the Massed Bands and Buglers of the 43rd, Depot, and 4th Battalion.

(*b*) A Lantern Display by 80 men of the Depot.

6. Gun Drill Display by the 399th (Oxfordshire Yeomanry) Field Battery R.A. (T.A.).

7. The Storming of the Cashmere Gate, Delhi, by the 52nd Light Infantry on September 14, 1857, carried out by the Permanent Staff and Recruits of the Depot.

8. Drill Display by 40 Recruits from the Depot accompanied by the 43rd Band.

9. The Modern Battle carried out by 399th (Oxfordshire Yeomanry) Field Battery and the 4th Battalion, which depicted an attack on an armoured car by an enemy supported by a light tank. A signal for help is sent up by the car which brings up mechanised infantry and artillery who succeed in capturing the light tank and driving off the enemy.

10. The Story of the Colours. A parade of colour parties of different dates carrying the colours of the period. 1749, 43rd; 1790, 52nd; 1815, 52nd; 1850, 43rd; 1872, 52nd, as carried to-day; 43rd as carried to-day, represented by the colours of the 4th Battalion. The war, 2 King's colours presented to Service and Garrison battalions which served overseas. The Bands of the 43rd and 4th Battalion played appropriate music for the different periods.

11. The Grand Finale, a parade of all taking part in the Tattoo.

(i) The advance of the 399th Battery and the two armoured cars to the right and left of the line respectively.

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(ii) The advance of the Depot and 4th Battalion.
(iii) The advance in quick and slow time of the colour parties. The colours then took post in review order in front of the whole line.
(iv) Last Post from the top of the Cashmere Gate.
(v) Abide with Me. By the Massed Bands and an Echo Band.
(vi) Rule Britannia.

GOD SAVE THE KING

Some 30,000 people were present during the week, of whom quite 10,000 witnessed the tattoo on the last night. Thanks to a rising hill on the east side of the arena nearly all this number were able to sit down on the grass and see everything which went on in the arena in comfort.

Our takings came to £2,004 19s. 7d. for admission seats and programmes, £86 11s. 0d. in the car park, £5 5s. 9d. for percentage on cushions which were hired, £7 10s. 0d. from sale of refreshments and £77 10s. 0d. for advertisements in the programmes, making a total of £2,181 16s. 4d.

We are still awaiting a charge for loan and damages to Searchlights, however, expenses so far amount to £1,109 18s. 2½d., the chief items of which were, insurance £123 3s. 11d., printing and advertising £182 13s. 11d., scenery £91 13s. 5d., travelling expenses £111 18s. 3d., fireworks £66 15s. 9d., uniforms £139 9s. 6d., erection of stands £102 5s. 10d. This leaves a present balance of £1,071 18s. 1½d., and it is hoped that at least £1,000 will be available to be divided between the two charities for which the Tattoo was organised.

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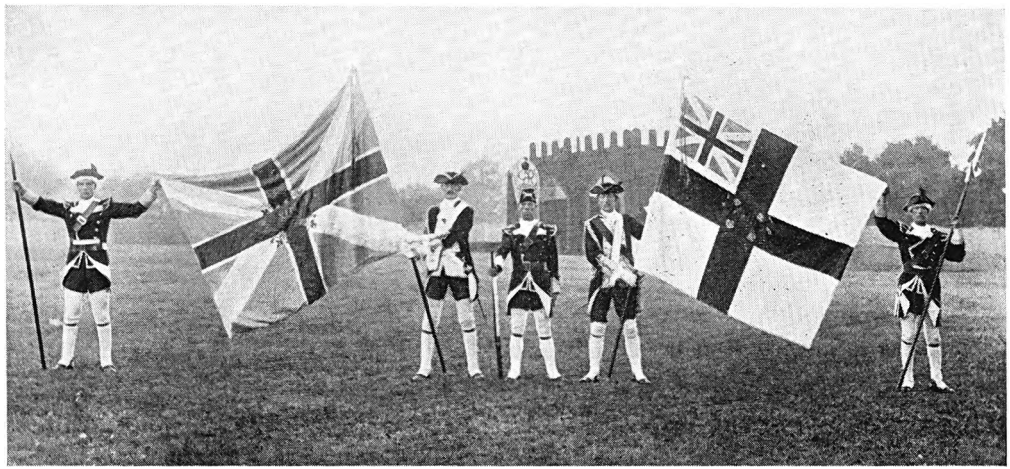

1749.
(Representing 2nd Set 43rd Colours.)

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## ARTHUR PONSONBY JOURNAL (*Contd.*), (PART II)

### IRELAND (1848)

LORD CLARENDON was the very efficient Lord Lieutenant when we arrived. . . .

We found we were only to remain in Dublin a few hours and then go by rail to Templemore in Tipperary. Never shall I forget our disgust when we arrived at Templemore, a large barrack with a small mud town all round and bog in every direction, such a dismal place I have seldom seen. The 59th were quartered there, but we did not see much of them. Soon after we arrived there a detachment was sent up to Dublin, as disturbances were on. There were four companies under Major Frazer. We went up by rail and were put up in Leinster House, two Squadrons of Carabineers there also under Colonel Jackson, known as "Justice to Ireland" Jackson from his having a short time before in a row in the north of Ireland, when the people were calling out "Justice to Ireland," pointed to a gun and said "There is Justice for Ireland." We all had mattresses given us and laid down every night in full dress, so as to be ready to turn out at a moment's notice. It was tedious work. In the morning when the danger was supposed to be over, we went to a hotel close by to wash and dress. After that, half were allowed to go where they liked, and the rest remained all day in. The men were put up in different parts of the building. There were one or two field days whilst we were in Dublin and there was one

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large fancy ball given by Lord Donoughmore, which was very good fun. I forget how long we were in Dublin, but I think all immediate danger was supposed to be over in about six weeks, Smith O'Brien having gone to the Provinces and was trying to get the people to rise in Tipperary. So back we were sent to Templemore. The 13th Light Infantry were supposed to be rather shaky having many Irish in the regiment, and were sent back to England. General McDonald with what was called the flying column was marching and camping all about Tipperary. The 74th and 60th were with him besides cavalry and artillery. When we got back to Templemore, we found the Regiment in a great way, on account of an accident that had happened to Major Egerton, the senior Major, whom we all liked, although he was a cold, austere man, but a thorough gentleman. He and others had been to some races at Roscrea, I think. The stand broke and Egerton was so much injured in the spine that he died a few days afterwards. Curiously enough a clergyman and a jockey were the other victims. Egerton's body was brought to Templemore and was buried with military honours two days after we came back in the Garrison Church. About a year afterwards, Mr. Egerton, of Tatton, his father, gave the Regiment a splendid candelabra as a testimonial, at each of its corners was a figure representing an officer, a private, and a bugler. Stow and Mortimer made it. We put up a small tablet to him on his grave and a very prettily designed memorial at the church at Tatton, a white cross in a black marble alcove.

There were constant rumours of rows all about Ireland. The *United Irishman*, a newspaper conducted

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by Mitchel, was being published now full of treason and abuse of Englishmen. Smith O'Brien was also stirring up the people. We had to send out detachments again. One to Thurles, under Skipwith of our Company, and two Companies under Frazer, of which mine was one, to Cashel, which was a hotbed of sedition, and one to Tipperary. We marched to Cashel, about 20 miles, I think. The barracks were very fair, in the middle of the town. The town, a wretched-looking place, better, however, than Templemore. The Rock of Cashel, at the top of which was the old cathedral, was the sight. We had no mess room, but messed at a public house kept by a Mrs. Ryan in the town. Lambert, Cholmondeley, were the captains, Sandford, Morel and I the subalterns and another, but I forget. When we regularly settled down, it was not such a bad place. Soon our trouble began. There was a man in the town, I forget his name, he went about making speeches. In the R.C. Chapel the priest used to preach against the Government. An officer always went with the men, we had only about 12 R.C.'s there, who, however, used to laugh at what he said. The sergeant told me on one occasion we had better retire and we accordingly did, as the abuse of the Queen was very strong and the men did not like it. We had some Irishmen of the North, red hot Orangemen, who were constantly getting into fights with the Tipperary men, but being better fed and stronger men, used to get the best of it. One Stevenson in my company I remember a red hot Orangeman and never happy unless he was thrashing a Papist. The tiresome part of our duty was patrolling at night, an officer (a subaltern)

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and about 20 men started about 9 when dark and were not allowed to go more than two miles an hour, nor allowed to smoke or talk. It was very tedious work, and I do not think did much good, at least we never saw anybody, but I believe it was intended to prevent them assembling for drill. Occasionally we were confined to barracks whenever an outbreak was expected. Our barracks were overlooked by two or three houses, consequently these houses were hired by Government, for in the event of a row, a few men in the windows opposite could have done us a good deal of damage whilst assembling the Barrack Guard. One day a placard was posted on the barrack gate offering £100 reward for Smith O'Brien, an order from the Castle signed by Lord Clarendon. The next day a placard was posted over it offering £100 for Lord Clarendon's head, signed by Smith O'Brien. One morning when we were at breakfast, we were suddenly ordered to get ready and fall in; we did not take long and were on the point of marching towards Ballingarry, about 12 miles, off, when an express came to say we were not wanted. It seems the Constabulary had attacked Smith O'Brien and his wretched followers, and after a fight during which Smith O'Brien had managed to escape, they took his citadel, a small house, Widow McCormick, round which was a cabbage garden. There were not many casualties. As far as actual open rebellion went, it was all over, O'Brien was wandering about somewhere and his followers were dispersed. The only attempt at a riot we ever had was when my Company had to march towards Thurles to give over a man, I forget his name, who lived in the town and wrote and spoke

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seditiously. The police had taken him and we had to escort him half way to Thurles. He was in a covered car. People assembled in the street, yelled at us and threw stones. At last the men were ordered to fix bayonets and charge towards, but not to touch anybody. The moment the mob saw the men turn on them, they all bolted as hard as they could and we continued our way unmolested. Half-way to Thurles we met Dick (Lieut.) who had come to take our prisoner from us and take him on to Thurles. On our way back, we were hissed at a good deal and Lambert, my Captain, who was rather portly, was chaffed " Be dad lave him alone, he is with child," at which he was very wroth. Soon after this Smith O'Brien was taken prisoner at Thurles station by Captain Mackenzie (92nd), Brigade Major, who recognised him in the train as it was about to move off. He told the driver to stop, who at first would not, but Mackenzie pulled out a pistol and made him get down from the engine. O'Brien was taken prisoner and brought to barracks and handed over to Skipwith who gave him a room to himself. He was very quiet and said he was sorry he had given the soldiers so much trouble. He was sent up to Dublin and then things grew very quiet. Smith O'Brien's trial came off in June or July, if I remember right, and he had the right to be tried in the county where he had been caught. Mitchell, the editor of the *United Irishman*, had been tried and sentenced to death, which was remitted to transportation and off he was sent to Spike Island, Cork, on his way to Australia. With Smith O'Brien was Meagher, McManus and a Cashel man, Donoghue I think his name was. As it was



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thought not unlikely that an attempt would be made to rescue him, great secrecy was used as to the day he was to be brought down, finally it was allowed to ooze out that on a certain day he must be at Clonmel. This was a dodge, for about a week before, we were suddenly ordered after dinner to get ready. The town was patrolled; also small patrols as usual in the country. At 1, a Company fell in and marched to the hotel, arriving there about five minutes before a clatter of horses was heard and the next minute up came the prisoners and escort. We were all armed with pistols (the officers). Soon everything was ready. The horses had been changed. A squadron of the King's Dragoon Guards had been quartered at Cashel during the past week and they took up the escort. First came a troop of cavalry. Then two of Bianconni large horse cars, on each of which were about 20 soldiers loaded. Then a four horse coach with the prisoners and constabulary followed by three cars, two of soldiers and one of constabulary, and the rear brought up by another troop of cavalry. It was really rather an imposing sight, it being full moon. Off they started at a gallop for Clonmel and the prisoners were safely lodged in the gaol without any disturbance. Clonmel was full of people who came down to hear the trial. Henry amongst the number, and as he could get me into the court, I went over. My face was one mass of pimples, from what reason I know not. I got into the court and heard Whiteside's speech in defence. It was I thought splendid, and at the conclusion he made everybody cry. Smith O'Brien appeared very cool, dressed as a gentleman. People kept on handing him up books to write his

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name in. McManus made a speech and a very good one. They were all sentenced to be hung, drawn and quartered. The parts of the body to be disposed according to His Majesty's pleasure. The names of the jury who had found them guilty were posted all over the town. And now the Rebellion was really over, with the exception of two or three unimportant trials in Dublin. All this good management was owing to Lord Clarendon, who managed affairs admirably and firmly. Of course these men were not beheaded, but were to be transported to Australia. They were easily treated and were allowed leave, but not to come back to England. Mitchell broke his parole and went to America, as did Meagher. The former died, the other is fighting with the Federal Army against the Rebels!! McManus died in Australia, Smith O'Brien has been allowed back in Ireland where he has been pretty quiet, occasionally writing letters in the papers abusing the English. By rights his property was confiscated, but of course given back to him. He was an M.P. and of course lost his seat. An unpleasant duty I had to perform when at Cashel was to assist at an eviction. Tenants refused to pay their rents or give their property up. Police had to be sent to turn them out and a guard of soldiers with them. One morning I was told off for this with 20 men. We marched some distance and arrived at a lot of cottages. There were the police and the agent of the property. The agent went into the different cottages or rather hovels, and warned them they would be immediately turned out. After a short time, the working men employed set to work to batter the house down, no difficult matter, being made of

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mud only; then one by one would the wretched people come out howling and crying to me for help. Of course I could do nothing. There were old and young in their rags turned out into the world on a cold day and their houses pulled down. In one house there was great difficulty about getting an old woman nearly 80 out and in another a man refused to come, till I saw the hut beginning to fall in. But he came and was walking off when the police seized him. It turned out he had been implicated in a murder a short time before and they could not find him. On we went to other cottages, and demolished about 30. The soldiers did not like the duty at all; however it could not be helped. Whilst at Cashel I received an invitation from Ryan, who lived at Caher, asking me to forgive him for what he had done at Sandhurst (the boy I licked), and asking me to dine at his place. I was, however, unable to go.

[In November, 1848, Ponsonby's Company rejoined Regimental Headquarters at Templemore, and in December, Ponsonby went on leave to England which he spent in Gloucestershire with his family, hunting and shooting. At the end of January, 1849, Ponsonby rejoined the regiment at Templemore. From this date until the 43rd sailed for the Cape, his Journal records faithfully the daily routine and amusements of garrison life in Ireland in these times. Court martials, route marches, shooting, hunting, fishing, cricket, racquets, and balls fill the picture. Ponsonby was a great society man. His journal is filled with the names of the lions and beauties of that social period both in London and Dublin. He seems to have been peculiarly fortunate in the number of

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beautiful women he knew or met, and records his admiration of them on page after page. The diary is now continued on the eve of the departure of the 43rd for the Kaffir war.—C.H., ED.]

*September* 18, 1851.—Lambert rushed into my room early and told me we had got our orders for the Cape of Good Hope. I rather like the idea. We start from here on Monday and go as far as Lismore.

*September* 23.—Very fine. Paraded at ½ p. 5 and started at 6. Lambert rode Moncks mare. I hired a horse for 7/6. Men marched capitally. Very good road, rather pretty along the Blackwater. Arrived at Fermoy at ½ p. 11—15 English miles (from Lismore). Fermoy is a very nice clean pretty town. Billets very good. Green with one Coy. and H.Q. arrived from Michelstown before us. Fraser with 2 coys. from Clogheen having started from Carrick on Saturday arrived at 2. Dined in the hotel; pretty good one. The band played in the market place at Tattoo. The 1st Royals quartered here; never asked us to dinner or took any notice of us at all. Nobody knows why. It is said on account of some row we had with them a long time ago in America. The Sergeants gave the Sergeants a dinner.

*September* 24.—Paraded at ½ p. 4 and started at 5—quite dark. I hired a horse for 12/-. At Watergrass Hill 10 E. miles, we halted an hour for breakfast, and then went on. The band played 4 or 5 tunes and the men in great spirits, sang the whole way and marched beautifully. Arrived at Cork at 2. 22 miles in 9 hours including halts. We marched at the rate of 3 miles an

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hour as I timed them. The 40th and 90th Bands came out to meet us and played us in. Dined with the 90th. Very nice fellows, good Mess. The band played and sang choruses from the operas—very tired.

*September* 25.—Everything in confusion. All dined with the 40th. Very good dinner, beautiful band and good fellows—Hon. members of both messes.

*September* 26.—Inspected by Turner (Major-Genl.). There was trooping the Guard first and then he inspected us. I never saw such a fine lot in my life. 6 coys, 100 strong each, all ——. Turner immensely pleased. This is a tremendous barracks. H.Q. of 40th and 90th, and squadron of cavalry. An officer's guard at the Gate. Dined with Skip and his brother, Primrose, Davidson. —— Wise (40th), Wilmot, at the Imperial. Skip gave a haunch of venison. Lambert has sent in his papers, all very sorry to lose him. Colonel is going to sell if they will let him. Synge and —— got the Coys. and Philips the majority. Skip purchased Colonelcy over Frazer's head.

*October* 3.—We did trooping the Colour to-day. It is done every Friday by one of the regiments in garrison. Went down to town. Went to a man to have my picture taken in crayon to send to Mamma. £1 1s.; Sat on a horse and he nearly finished it; he is to finish it to-morrow. Dined with the 90th; the band played and sang beautifully. Played at whist; won 30s.

*October* 4.—Graham came back from leave with all sorts of dodges for the Cape and in sick list. Dublin tailor came down here in great excitement because

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by mere mistake his foreman had sent lawyer's letter to all our fellows; he came to apologise.

*October* 5.—Raining and blowing tremendously. The *Vulcan* must have put in somewhere, as the wind is dead against her. Went to church with men at 9. Stapleton has come back from leave. My picture was finished yesterday. I did not think it at all like me.

*October* 7.—Henry [his brother—Ed.] arrived last night and brought all my things—an india-rubber bed, telescope, a brace of colt revolvers, and he gave me a new Westley Richards gun. Henry dined at Mess. Curzon and Heathcote (52nd) came to see us.

*October* 8.—The *Vulcan* arrived this morning, having had a very rough passage from Portsmouth, they put in at ——. Henry, Green and I went down to see her laying off Harbowling. Captain Hamley and 100 of 12th Regiment, a draft to the Cape, and 12 men of 12th Lancers. She appears a fine vessel, 270 feet long, 1,800 tons, 350 Horse power. She has got an auxiliary screw, but is a very good sailor. The officers very civil. Master Penn Commander. She has leaked a little. Got back about 6. Dined at Mess. A lot of us went to a ball at the Victoria Hotel, 40th and 90th bands there. A very good room & capital floor. The girls neither pretty nor ugly. Danced a good deal. Did not get home till five.

*October* 9.—Very fine—up early as Green, Ward and I are on baggage guard—Had breakfast and marched down. Took about 3 hours to get the baggage on board the small steamer. An hour and a half to steam down to the *Vulcan* and then nearly all day putting it on board, a great deal was obliged to be left on the

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quay till to-morrow. Had tea in the gun room with the officers and slept on board, rather comfortable.

*October* 10.—Head-quarters with Skipwith (Colonel) and Philipps (Major) arrived at 12 in two Steamers. Everything in confusion. I got leave to go on shore, a lot of us went up and dined at the Imperial. Henry met Sgt. Murphy and asked him to dine with us, which he did. We all dined at 7. Sgt. Murphy is the most amusing fellow I ever met, and kept us in a roar all night. Made Murphy Sergeant-Major of 43rd. Davidson, Graham and I came back on a covered car, as we heard we were to sail in the morning.

*October* 11.—Raining & blowing hard—List of officers going out: Skipwith (Colonel), Philipps (Major), Captains Gore, Herbert, Primrose (who I am doubled up in the same cabin with), Green, Bruere, Dick, Booth, Graham, Miller, who exchanged into Guards; Ensigns; Robinson, Stapleton, Mure, Pellew, Calvert and Annesley, the three last are strung up in cots. My cabin very comfortable. A lot of fellows came down to see us. Chum arrived all the way from England.

*October* 12.—Very fine indeed. Had service on deck. Green, Henry and some others came to see us. Henry [Ponsonby's brother—Ed.] has been so very kind getting all sorts of things for me. Uncle Apsley sent me £50. At ¼ past 2 steam was got up and Penn ordered the hawser to be let go, we swung with the tide and away we went. Said goodbye to Henry and all the fellows. The Ajax gave us three cheers, also some people on shore; we were not allowed to cheer, as they would not have heard the orders. About 3 we were nearly out of the

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harbour, all went to dinner. Very smooth, the screw making a tremendous noise and heat tremendous—Went to bed about eight feeling seedy.

[The diary of the voyage to the Cape occupies many pages of Ponsonby's journal, and only a few extracts from it can be quoted here.—ED.]

*October* 13.—Very fine but contrary wind. Screw left off at 7, having worked 17 hours; felt very seedy all day. Scarcely anybody showed up at dinner.

*October* 17.—Beautiful day. We have passed Bay of Biscay. Got up and felt much better for it. We breakfast at 9; parade 10; lunch 12; dinner 3; tea 7. Bed about 10. Band played in afternoon, very jolly indeed. Miller has been very ill indeed. Our average is 7 knots an hour sailing.

*October* 19.—Heat awful. A marine died of apoplexy yesterday and buried to-day. The Captain reads the service and then he is thrown overboard in a hammock.

*October* 19.—Very fine, not a breath of wind, the screw taken off; why I don't know, at 7 this morning, having worked 25 hours. Whenever she screws an immense quantity of water gets in. To take the screw up a small capstan is fixed and about 20 men work it, a fiddle and —— playing to make them keep time. . . . Penn gets £2 10s. for every day he has us on board so naturally is in no great hurry, although he has orders to make all haste. He and the naval doctor dine with us to-day, our first dinner party.

*October* 30.—Intensely hot. Mrs. Ford, the Sergeant Major's wife, died to-day. A curious thing a shark was seen following the ship early this morning;

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also before the marine died about 10 days ago. Everything being painted and cleaned.

*October* 31.—Heat awful. Mrs. Ford's funeral. This ship is 1,780 tons, 350 horse power auxiliary screw, 231 feet long, carrying 1,040 souls.

*November* 2.—Hot as ever. Just before church there was immense excitement as we hooked a shark; it was a curious thing to see, the bait was a bit of pork. . . . He was about 9 feet long and weighed about 100 lbs. The sailors ate him. They like them very much. Last night Mrs. Parrot—bugler's wife—died. It is really very curious, each time a shark is seen there has been a death. The stokers struck work this morning on account of the heat; it is awful down there, 140 deg. Fahr.

*November* 7.—Tremendous heat—arrived here, Sierra Leone at 12 o'clock last night. . . . We hear the news from the Cape very bad. 2nd had had one officer, Captain Oldham (we knew him at Portsmouth) and 25 men killed having been cut off in the bush. 74th had a lot of men killed and through some mistake in orders they had to retire before the Kaffirs. Their bandmaster, a German, was taken. Altogether very unsatisfactory, every chance of its going on.

*November* 8.—Very fine. We left Sierra Leone steaming early this morning at 2. Everything in disorder. I can not make out why Sierra Leone is said to be such an unpleasant place.

*December* 5.—Met this morning at 6 by several officers walking about with swords. It was on account of flogging a man. All the officers and men formed up. The order read out, the officers and men taking off their caps. The boatswain with his mate

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gave him a dozen each. I did not go to see it. Annesley did, but I heard it all from my bed (under the poop). The man took it very well, stamped the first three or four blows and then was quiet; he was to have received three dozen, but Penn let him off one dozen. He did not seem to mind it much. He was flogged for having struck a petty officer.

*December* 9.—Blowing very hard this morning and last night. In sight of land and rather close to it. Passed the Cape at 7. Rugged range of hills ending in a huge stone which I believe is the southernmost point. Put on steam and steamed into the Bay, a very large one with very high craggy hills on each side, on the right the Hottentots live. Simons Town is a pretty little village, stone houses with flat tops, a few good store shops and two good hotels—Very few Dutch in the town. Anchored at 9. Castor 36 frigate and Styx 6 paddle steamer. Heard dreadful news about the Kaffir war. Colonel Fordyce, 74th, Curry, and another 74th, Rickets 94th, killed. It is thought they were shot by some Hottentots who had turned against us. Altogether the accounts are very gloomy. Sir H. has sent for more troops. The *Birkenhead* arrived in England three days after we left, so I suppose it will be here soon. A small —— came along side to take the baggage, it was, we were told, the first ship that Nelson commanded (rather slow now). Landed with Annesley and some others; went about to look for a carriage to take us to Cape Town. Tried all day, but could not find one. Went to the hotel and had a very good dinner—10s. 6d. with champagne. The people are the most —— lot I ever saw and surly. Played at billiards in the evening

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and when we wanted to go on board found we couldn't get a boat. Annesley and I went to the hotel and slept in the same room.

*December* 10.—Very fine. Blowing hard. Up early, had a capital breakfast and at 12 started for Cape Town in a sort of van with 8 horses. Annesley could not come as he wanted to unpack something. Very pretty road, down along the sands for some distance, stopped at a halfway house. A Dutchman . . . kept a pack of Tachale hounds, nothing particular and had some nice horses. They are all very small but strong. Dick bought a very nice one for £35. Got to Cape Town, a large well built, long, narrow, shady street, capital shops and 2 good hotels. Walked about buying everything and looking at horses. One was brought out and having asked the man to trot him out he put up a nigger boy who, after he had gone a little way, stood on the saddle like they do it at a circus—and galloped about as fast as possible. Mr. Parke's Hotel capital. Had a warm bath and dined at the Table d'Hote, very good, 6/8 with wine & beer. Started at 12. Stopped at the farmer again & asked him to send a horse in for us to arrive at Simons Town at 4.30.

*December* 11.—Very stormy & rainy. We ought to have gone to-day, but the wind has kept us back. Bought a screw for £25—Skip bought a very nice horse for £30. Dick's is a very good one too. They were all put on board to-day. . . . People say Sir Harry [Sir Harry Smith] is quite in his dotage and Somerset has been doing some odd things.

*December* 12.—Very fine. Still blowing hard, had breakfast on board, went on shore and did more

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shopping, came off at 1 as they said we were going to sea. Everybody has left off shaving. We are allowed ten days' forage for our horses. Did not expect to be able to get out but got out of the bay and it was not in the least rough.

*December* 13.—Very fine. Brought an officer from the Styx as pilot. The men have had the same peaks that they wore on the black caps put on the forage caps. Slept in my indoor rubber bed under the poop. Stinks awfully besides being uncomfortable, but I dare say it will be more comfortable on shore.

*December* 15.—Very fine, hot. We arrived in Algoa Bay at 10 o'clock. Fort Elizabeth very bleak and wretched, the town seems pretty good, red. There is a tremendous surf here, so much so that we are obliged to have large flat bottomed boats on purpose to land troops. . . . Started from Algoa Bay at 2 o'clock.

*December* 16.—Very fine and hot all day. Anchored in the Bay at Buffalo River (East London, the town) at 9. Surf boats came off. ½ Gore's Coy. and Pioneers. —— and McCrea were landed. It was very rough. A mist came on in the evening which prevented them landing any more to-day.

*December* 17.—Very hot. Primrose and Calvert with a part of the Coy. (the boats do not hold more than 70 men) started. I went with the rest of the Coy. Wished goodbye to the officers and gave a tip to the Quartermaster. Yesterday it was very difficult getting into the boats. The surf boat being very buoyant gets tossed about in a most tremendous manner. Gore in getting in fell in and lost his sword.

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I got in all right with the men. Bruere and part of his Coy. came with us. Got on shore at night. East London, a few mud cottages, with a fort (?), camp just outside. The camp is just above the river, the bank on each side being covered with the most beautiful shrubs. . . . All the Coys. landed safely. Herbert's got a ducking—the horse also safe. A Company of marines who had been up country came to go on board the *Vulcan* and go back to the Castor, all their faces covered with moustaches and beards and dressed how they liked. Came back with Annesley to camp—everybody drunk nearly. 33 prisoners in guard tent; they pushed it down. Slept soundly in my tent in my india rubber bed which is invaluable.

*December* 18.—Heat awful (89 deg.) in tents. Bathed with Annesley yesterday. Very nice river for bathing. This morning all the men bathed, so we had to go higher up; got amongst rocks and were cut to pieces. Annesley bet me 10 guineas to 10 pounds he would shoot more Kaffirs than I do, with equal chances ! ! He is a stunning shot I believe. Paraded at 1, but did not start till ½ p. 2. The waggons with us, 18 of them each with 12 oxen, go very slowly and have to stop every now and then. Did not get to Fort Gray 8 miles till ½ p. 6. Everything in confusion as it was nearly dark. We were accompanied by an escort or should think rather hostage of 6 Kaffirs belonging to the peaceable tribes between E. London and Williamstown. They were armed with guns and assegais, their chief amusement is stealing things out of the tents. Besides this there were 30 Hottentots (Levies) sent as guides; they have their

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arms and ammunition given them by Government and dress how they like. The officer who commands them is only 17 and has been a year fighting.

*December* 19.—Intensely hot, 94 deg. in the sun. Parade at 10. Annesley in Herbert's Coy. went as Advanced Guard. Two men, Chilcot and Mc Combes, were tried this morning, former being drunk yesterday on the line of march, the latter using disrespectful language to a sergeant. 25 lashes given, 50 the latter, 25 remitted. I never saw flogging in the Army before. A tree had all its branches cut off and another put across, making it into the form of a small cross. The men were strung up and received them one after the other, the cat is made of 5 to 10 whipcord lashes with a knot at the end of each. They both had their backs cut up a good deal, but did not even wince once. A lot of young soldiers fainted. Did not start till ½ p. 11. I never saw such a march in this Regiment, men falling out in every direction from the heat, some of the strongest fell flat down. It was a short march only 6 miles, but there was not a breath of wind. All of us carried something, a pack or a gun.

*December* 21.—Paraded at 6. . . . Lots of people came out to see us march in [King Williamstown]. 6th and 60th bands came out to play us in. The latter Regt. as usual fraternised tremendously with us. The officers had breakfast ready which we were not sorry to get; good tea, butter and milk etc., all great things after we have been without them for 10 weeks. The men (60th) gave ours a blow out. The town consists of a mud fort with a magazine in it, a few nice cottages and some stone houses, a sort of

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barrack built by the Rifle Brigade during the last war. . . .

*December* 22.—We all had an interview with Sir Harry [Sir Harry Smith], a short man, a good deal of grey hair, parted behind, sharp features, good eye, quite a dandy, very proud of his feet, small. I think there is a great deal of affectation about him, attempting to imitate the Duke of W., in saying things very sharply. Before being introduced he had got up all our families. We saw Grevile, his A.D.C. come over to the Mess for the Peerage [A strange book to ask for on active service! but it would appear that Sir Harry's tastes were shared by other members of his force.—ED.] He asked after various people, made one or two bad shots but got through pretty well. He then made one of his speeches, well buttered. Said he was our comrade, an hon. member of our Mess, having been in the Light Division; talked about the Peninsular, a few pleasantries about its being just as easy to be killed here as anywhere else, knew we should do very well & recommended us to go straight at them into the bush, rather doubtful advice! I gave my letter—Had parade afterwards.

*December* 23.—Raining. Sir Harry sent to see me, talked a great deal and told me to go to him, if I got into a row. Parade afterwards. On a Court Martial yesterday. Sgts. Allen and Whittaker broke for being drunk. . . . Dined with his Excellency at 7; very good dinner. Philipps, Gore, Mure and myself. Holdich and Grevile, A.D.C., Colonel Chester, Adj.-General, Major Garvagh, Priv. Sec. Sir H. swore like a trooper the whole time, drinks hard and obliges everybody to finish the wine in their glasses. Plays

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at whist afterwards. A lot of us went into the A.D.C.s room and smoked.

*December* 27.—Heard that 3 Coys. Gore's, Herbert's Primrose's (mine) are to go as escort to some —— to Fort Cox next Tuesday. They say the enemy will not attack.

*December* 28.—Packing up and making preparations for to-morrow. Knibbs the saddler not having finished half the pack saddles, we were supplied by Govt. Very heavy, 25 lbs. they weigh; as they are absolutely necessary, we were obliged to use them. Parade for our 3 coys. in afternoon. Dined with 60th.

*December* 30.—Very fine and hot. Paraded at ½ p. 4, and marched off about 5. Besides us there were about 20 of the 2nd, or Queen's, under an officer, 30 of the 60th, some Cape Corps under Warren and Thursby, 15 XII Lancers under a sergeant and 50 of Montague's horse under Captain Graham, 240 of us. We crossed the river and found the waggons 30 in number ready for us and off we went. A few amateur shopkeepers came with us. For the first 6 miles there is a great deal of bush, but not very thick, lots of jessamine. About 8 miles from here we got into a grass plain, not a bush to be seen. The men were obliged to gather wood before we left the bush and we marched on, every man carrying some wood. . . . Every officer rides, of course, and besides that has a pack horse, on which he carries his tent (patrol), eatables and potables, tin kettle and clothes. It comes to a good weight altogether. Having halted for 2½ hours, we went on and arrived at the Debe Neck, about which we had been told all



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sorts of stories and warned particularly to be careful. Accordingly we threw out flank patrols and one company went on the right hand side of the road. The Debe Neck is a very broad pass between two hills. They are about 1½ miles apart and covered thickly with bush, the intervening space is dotted scantily with bushes. I dare say sufficient to hide a great number of Kaffirs. When we were about 200 yards from the road and 400 or 500 from the bush, some of the Cape Corps galloped up and fired a few shots. One was returned. I saw 6 men come out. I shot at them with a firelock but of course could not say what effect it had. So much for Debe Neck. . . . The most absurd thing of all was after we had joined the column and were going on, Wellesley, D.A.A.G., who had been with us as a guide, thought he saw Kaffirs going up the hill. He got leave from Skip, rode up to the XII Lancers and in a very pompous voice said "Are you ready men? Then gallop!" Away they went, Annesley with them. The enemy turned out to be turkey bustards!

*January* 2, 1852.—Therm. 83 in the tents. This morning we heard of the death of Major Wilmot, R.A. He was one of the best of the commanders. He foolishly went into a Kaffir Kraal. They shot him directly; he died a few minutes afterwards. General orders began. "We must all die, but a soldier is liable to sudden death," and then went on praising him a great deal. He is a great loss. Sir H. is very much cut up about it. We sent out another patrol to-day, the other 3 companies, Greene's, Bruere's and Dick's. Skipwith took the command. There

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were 30 Cape Corps, 30 Sappers, 30 60th, 150 Fingoes and Levy and 50 Montague's horse. They are to go across the Kei to bring the cattle in ; they only march 7 miles to-day. Skip allowed the fellows to wear wideawakes. Herbert went as his A.D.C. Graham on sick list with sprained ankle. Miller acting Adjt.

*January* 6.—Dined with Sir Harry, Tolcher 2nd, Ellis 60th, and Mr. Bromley, head of police, and the Staff. As usual it was not rapid. Afterwards went and smoked in Grevile's room.

*January* 7.—Found some plover about ½ mile from camp. Graham lent me his gun. I got close to them from horseback, with one barrel I killed two ; galloped after them and with the other barrel shot two more at full gallop. Had them for dinner at 60th. Very good.

*January* 10.—A lot of fellows are going out to-day to see the Patrol come in. They are to be in here about 4. The first of the Patrol has just arrived ; one of the officers' servants. He is riding a wretched looking pack pony ; looks as if it wanted corn. The man has a wide-awake on, a red shell jacket patched with different coloured cloth, and a pair of dirty fustian trowsers, boots without much sole. They all arrived about 5. The 12th Lancers and Cape Corps first ; their horses in a very bad way with sore backs.

*January* 12.—Annesley and I rode out to meet the rest of the Patrol come in. We saw the 6th with Mitchell at their head, a fine looking fellow, the 2nd, and 60th. As usual our men turned out and cheered them tremendously, afterwards gave them a dinner and sherry. Saw all the fellows, very much altered with their beards and moustaches.

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*January* 13.—Intensely hot (93). Got orders at 10 o'clock to hold ourselves (Gore's and Primrose's Cos.) to go to Fort White. Paraded at ½ p. 12 rather quick work. Denton, Q.M., broke his arm. So nothing has been done in the way of serving out rations. The officers went off without them. We were to go as rear guard to the 2nd Regiment, who left here this morning early to relieve the 45th at Fort White & Cox. There were 60 Cape Corps & 20 Lancers. Col. Napier, Cape Corps, command of the party with Warren, Kingsley, Thursby & Gibb, Doctor Gough, 12th Lancers. It was intensely hot; stopped at the Debe plain as before for an hour and did not get in till ½ p. 9. It was nearly dark when we went through the Neck, but there was no attack.

*January* 14.—Up at 4 and started as rear guard to the waggons of Somerset's Div. Went through a very pretty place to the Keiskana river. When we got over (knee deep) we found Somerset had gone and left the waggons to get on as well as they could in the most dangerous part. We followed them a little way, it was getting very hot and we had not breakfasted. Napier sent on to know what we were to do and he said we might go home. It took Thursby, C.M.R., two hours to catch him up [Somerset]. He is an old fool, I think; we were not wanted at all.

*January* 27.—Parade at 5. Katy's Rifles at 4 marched off in one direction; 60th and 6th with a few Lancers under Colonel Mitchell ½ p. 4 towards Fort White, us and 73rd, 30 Lancers under Durant, a few Cape Corps, Fingoe Levys 50 and a Howitzer. 415 of us, 400 73rd. The whole under Colonel Eyre, 73rd.

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Colonel Eyre is a man about 45, hair touched with grey, blackish moustache, small beard, large green spectacles, a peculiar leather cap, patrol jacket, brown cord trousers and nap boots & only carries a short knob kerry (stick). A great martinet but a very good officer. . . .

[The manuscript of the Journal now becomes impossible to read. An account of this patrol can be found in the *Historical Records of the 43rd Regiment*, p. 254, *et seq.* The columns returned to King William's Town on February 28th.—Ed.]

*February* 28.—The 60th Band came out to meet us and a lot of people. Colonel Eyre, who had gone on ahead of us, gave Sir H. a very good character of us and said if he (Sir H.) would give him the 43rd and 73rd, he would go anywhere with them. The feeling as far as we go is reciprocal, for there could not be a better man to command. Had luncheon at the Mess, Nobody knows what luxuries bread and butter are till they come back from a patrol. Herbert has gone to E. London for his health. The Mess is improved. Everybody misses poor Davidson. . . . Colonel Eyre was very much pleased with "A" Company and my exertions last night at the crossing of the river and begged Skip would thank us.

*February* 29.—Regiment went to church at 9. Shaved my beard off. We are to go out again I hear about Friday. Sir H. goes with a large staff. Herbert I believe has managed to get on it. We are to work Watercloof and from there to try and drive the Kaffir clean out of the country. Everybody says it is impossible.

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MY WILL ON SERVICE

*February* 15, 1852.

If I should be shot, I wish none of my things to be sold, all sent home to my mother, Lady E. Ponsonby, and my brother, Major Ponsonby.

ARTHUR PONSONBY,
Lieut., 43rd.

*Witness*, E. H. Annesley.
February 15, 1852.
H. A. Executor, A.P.

[*To be continued.*]

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# TWO SHORT SHOOTS

## " The Sunderbunds "

In February this year I got ten days' leave and determined to try a shoot in the Sunderbunds. A lot is written about the shooting here, islands crawling with game and so on. In point of fact I strongly disadvise a visit, except possibly to the island I mention, as it is almost impossible to manipulate the game, owing to the extremely thick jungle, water channels and non-co-operative inhabitants.

I determined to go to Kukri-Mukri, the island farthest out in the Bay of Bengal, where there is a herd of three hundred buffalo, and where the Finance Member was tossed in 1920, and where Little Willie (The Crown Prince) was charged on his notorious Indian tour.

I went by river steamer to Barisal, whence I had to navigate a boat myself. I took with me a signaller who had been at sea, but in the long run the country boat we got had to be controlled by the native crew, as we could not function with the paleolithic sail. They stuck us on a sandbank for eighteen hours, but we eventually reached Kukri-Mukri, which is a small densely wooded island about two miles long by three broad.

It is not at all typical " buff " shooting, as one cannot follow up a solitary bull. One has to try to locate the herds and pick a head. The herds are more elusive than the size of the island would suggest,

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but I was lucky and found them straight away. I could not however see to shoot as the jungle was so thick, and one could only move about ten yards a minute. The second day was my last, and I was determined to get a head (incidentally the more you shoot of any sex the better they are pleased, as the herds have more or less depopulated the island). I got within about ten yards of an unsuspecting though restless bull and discharged my piece. I was using a double-barrel high-velocity .470, and had a .404 Winchester which had been thrust into my hand as an extra precaution, which I rather scoffed at, by the Deputy Commissioner at Barisal at the very moment of my departure.

As I fired the herd of about forty stampeded over me, while I lay, pale with terror, with my body glued to the ground like a Chingangtook listening for the approach of a Paleface. The last to go past seemed sizeable, so I gave him two just to show there was no ill-feeling, which flattened *him* out all right. In the meantime my original victim was kicking on the ground, while I was pumping lead into him to try to keep him there. What with excitement and fright one of my bullets must have struck one of the herd as they passed him, because one of the villagers (who had all disappeared as if by magic when the shooting started, to cheer every shot vociferously from a distant tree top), informed me that a cow, "with a calf," had departed with a bullet in its hind leg. This unpleasing statement was supported by a blood track.

Summoning to my aid all that was in me of the pride of a conquering race I set off, as nonchalantly as possible, to pursue. The jungle was very dense.

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When we had gone about half a mile we came to a small clearing. Suddenly I saw the bushes move on my right, and I knew she was coming from a flank. I swung round and gave her the first barrel (as it proved) just below the right horn boss and the left through the ribs. She was ten yards away, but still came on. I jumped aside to escape the charge, but I tripped over a branch and lay straight in her path. At this moment my corporal, who had heard the firing and was following with the second rifle, poked his head through the bushes. Taking in the situation very quickly he brought her down with a shot behind the shoulder with her head two feet from my legs. There she lay snorting with rage, her flanks heaving, her eyeballs rolling frenziedly in her death agony, while I gaped at her like one waking from a bad dream. It was a supreme moment!

We had to leave next morning, so I did not shoot any more, but I was very glad I had Corporal Jackson with me. None of the heads was a Rowland Ward specimen, but the shoot was certainly an interesting experience.

## THE C.P.

I feel very diffident of writing about this in view of the numbers of officers who have already done so with greater knowledge than I. However, a short article may be of interest to some. I had seventeen days' leave so took a block in North Chanda which could be reached in twenty-four hours from Calcutta. I got my baits in advance and had them out three days before I arrived. I had a kill the morning I got

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to my block, North Waragarh. The beaters were drawn up as I stepped from my car, and everything in the garden was lovely—till I found Manton had sent me .450 cartridges for my .470! I had with me also a .375 Mannlicher, my first rifle, which has since passed through many hands, and I determined to use this. We arrived at the kill at about 11 a.m. in intense heat, and I had to alter the stops and the machan which took an hour, as I felt certain the tiger would not follow the bed of a nullah which the machan covered, as it was too obvious a cul-de-sac. I placed the machan to cover the reverse slope of a little bump on which I thought the tiger might pause to look round to see where to make for next. I was wonderfully lucky. The tiger came out and stood on the bump, and I shot him behind the heart. He lay kicking on the ground, so to take no risks with a light rifle I gave him three more and a lethal. At this juncture a second tiger came galloping straight under my tree, very angry. Having only one barrel of lethal, and an inadequate rifle for following up, I stayed my hand, a piece of self-control which I hope the committee of Selous, Kinloch, Walter Winans, etc., who keep the game book in Elysium, have counted unto me for righteousness.

That was a tiger three hours after getting into my block. I now had to get home (five and a half miles distant). Were my thoughts of the triumphs of the day, of opportunities missed, of chances to come? No, but rather through three sultry sickening parched hours of whether to have a drink straight on arrival at the bungalow or jump into the bath first and have a drink in the bath.

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I determined to leave the tiger alone till the cartridges arrived, and gave them five days at the latest. On the fourth night I tied up and got a kill. The cartridges did not arrive the next morning. I determined to chance it. I hope Homer, in the aforementioned committee, was nodding. It was an easy beat to arrange, and I got the tiger out at a walk and aimed at his eye. He gave a roar and galloped off. My lookout man up a tree behind said he was still going strong when he passed him. I began to feel foolish. At this moment the magazine lever of the .375 elected to give out. I felt more foolish. I gave him half an hour to stiffen up and followed with the utmost regard to the principle of security, but with a complete neglect of mobility or offensive action and others of a similar nature. After going four hundred yards I came to a nullah. Having served in the 52nd in Pindi in '23 and '24, I well knew the value of "flankers." Two of these worthies up trees began to gesticulate wildly, and point at the nullah. I tried without success, to look pleased. I advanced and peeped over the edge and saw the top of the tiger's head fifteen yards away. I am pretty sure he was finished, but I gave such a demonstration of rapid fire with a damaged bolt lever as would have got me a D at any musketry school. My relief was acute and I fear apparent. The cheer set up by the villagers when I started shooting was most heartfelt. It is extraordinary how the boldest seem to feel they have married a wife, and the meekest-looking individuals are Cœurs-de-Lion when there is a wounded tiger about.

The next day the cartridges arrived and three days

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later I had another kill. Being rather impoverished by this time I decided to save money on a beat and walk up to the water pools at midday. I was amazingly lucky and walked on to him ten yards away asleep. While I was stealthily withdrawing to a rock whence I could get a safe and certain shot, the shikari lost his nerve and began shouting to frighten the tiger, which decamped with miraculous suddenness. I was livid, and how I refrained from shooting him I don't know.

The next day the rains began. I got one more kill my last week, but I made a mess of the beat. The Shikari by this time rather respected my bandobast after the first two beats, but this time the tiger went straight to the place where he said, and where I said it wouldn't, so he had the last laugh.

North Waragarh is easily reached and a pleasant and good shoot, but only in the hot weather. I think one is probably as well off there as in the far better but more sought after, and therefore overshot, jungles in south Chanda.

M. T. STEPHENS.

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## THE 52ND " ON THE ROAD TO MANDALAY "

AT the beginning of 1929, and even before this, rumour had been rife to the effect that the next move for the Regiment would be to Burma. This was only natural taking into consideration the fact that it is the ordinary routine move from Calcutta and that the Manchester Regiment's tour of duty in that country terminated this trooping season. In spite of repeated applications, both private and official, however, the powers that be refused to give themselves away, and it was not until September 25 that official orders were received that Maymyo was our fate.

The news was received with mixed feelings. The bull points being Maymyo was reputed to be a good station with a climate resembling England, we should have a chance to get down to some training and of doing some good in the musketry line, also it would give us an opportunity of improving our standard all round in football, hockey, polo, and other games and of bringing on new talent ; further, big game shooting was good and snipe and jungle fowl abounded, with the result that other ranks besides officers would be able to take part in this form of sport. On the contra side the attractions of Chouringhee, the restaurants and cinemas must be left behind, and we must be dependent on our own resources for amusement, and the hopes of distinguishing ourselves in the big football tournaments of India and appearing in the infantry at polo must be given up for a period of five years. On the whole I think the majority were opti-

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mistic in their views and, personally, I think it will be quite to the advantage of the Regiment as a whole.

The relief was a triangular one. We were to move to Maymyo, with one company at Mandalay, in relief of 2nd Battalion The Manchester Regiment, who were under orders for Secunderabad, to replace the Loyal Regiment, who, in their turn, were to take over from us at Calcutta.

Nowadays, there is a good deal of keenness in " Showing the Flag " in those parts of India in which the British soldier is seldom seen, with the result that the Loyal Regiment were ordered to move by train to Tatanagar, the home of the big iron and steel works, where they would detrain and, having stayed there a few days, march to Khargpur, which is an important railway engineering centre. From Khargpur they were to be trained into Calcutta where they were due to arrive on November 21.

The date of our move was fixed for November 22, and we were told that on this date we should embark on the B.I. ss. *Tairea*. After receipt of these instructions the Staff appeared to forget about us and no further orders were received, we started therefore to make some arrangements on our own, direct with the Port Officer and the B.I. agents; eventually we came up against one or two snags which we had not sufficient power to settle on our own and so had to refer these to higher authority, with the immediate result that we were told not to interfere and orders and counter orders followed one another in rapid succession.

At the beginning of November packing commenced, and the pioneers as usual were almost unable to cope with the late orders for boxes in which to stow the

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overwhelming accumulation of kit. On the 19th all our heavy baggage had been handed in and the store was closed and everything was ready to be dealt with by our most efficient baggage officer, Bayley, and his equally energetic chief of the staff, Sgt. Cobb.

On the 20th loading commenced; the ship being in the stream, all the baggage had to be taken down to the Government wharf on lorries and loaded into lighters, these being taken out to the ship and the baggage put on board during that night and the following morning.

Here I feel that I must make a digression. It was a fortnight under twenty-one years ago that the advance party of the 43rd, on the move from Lucknow to Burma, were loading baggage from the train on to the R.I.M.S. *Hardinge* at the same place. Hammick was in command and I was the subaltern, and I can see him now at the bottom of the hold, stripped to the waist, perspiring freely and exhorting his men to further activities.

In this case things were different, in 1908 we had to load everything with the soldiers, in 1929 the soldiers only had to unload the lorries, after which all the baggage was dealt with by coolie labour. Some days before this, Tolson was taken round the sister ship to the *Tairea* by Capt. Turbutt, the Naval Port Officer at Calcutta, and shown how they proposed to convert the vessel into a temporary troop-ship; it is interesting to note that Captain Turbutt was an officer on the R.I.M.S. *Bhamo*, which was one of the ships that took the 43rd up the Irrawady in 1908 and therefore an old friend.

The baggage being all aboard the next thing was

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the embarkation of the Regiment with the families, horses, dogs, parrots and in fact every known variety of pet including the monkey, but excluding the performing flea. After several applications had been refused, the Captain at last consented to allow the married families to embark the evening before the ship was due to sail, and Hamilton and I duly escorted them over in a launch and saw them safely housed on board on the 21st, thus disposing of one of the gravest responsibilities of a move.

On the 21st, also, Tolson and I accompanied by the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Cook Sergeant, and various other representatives, went over the ship and allotted accommodation, etc., and I must say that everything possible had been done for the comfort of all ranks.

On the 22nd " Reveille " was at 3 a.m., and all was activity, kit bags, blankets and light kit was all stacked and lorries arrived to take this down to the Outram Ghat, where it was to be stacked by companies, the only contretemps on this occasion was that Labh Singh, the Regimental tailor, arrived with twenty sewing machines and much more truck as light kit which the Conductor I.A.S.C. in charge refused to move as Regimental baggage; however, with a little gentle persuasion all was got on board the lorries and got away.

After stacking kits the men had a first breakfast and cleaned up the barracks. I inspected the rooms and thought they were extremely good, and we were very pleased afterwards to hear that the Commanding Officer of the Loyals had said that the barracks had been left in an extremely clean condition.

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At 6 a.m. the Regiment paraded and marched out of Fort William down to Outram Ghat. Again I cannot help repeating what I was told afterwards, that two officers watching the Regiment march out of the Water Gate, said that the 52nd headed by the band and buglers marching out of the Fort was a most inspiring sight.

On arrival at Outram Ghat, Companies marched on to their dumps of kits and these were distributed to their owners.

The Commander of the *Tairea* had assured me that at 7 a.m. he would tie up alongside the Ghat, and he was true to his word, for at one minute to the hour he was there and ready for us to start embarkation. The embarkation itself calls for no comment. Companies went on board and sat down at their mess tables until all were on board, when everybody was allowed on deck and had to be restrained from crawling on the awnings and spars and getting into the boats.

We had three bands to speed us on our way: the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry had very kindly sent their band twenty miles from Barrackpore, The Loyal Regiment's band had come from the Fort, and the 3/12th Frontier Force Band from Alipore. They played, amongst many other tunes, "Auld Lang Syne" and "The Girl I Left Behind Me." Incidentally we were told that the Bandmaster of the 3/12th had been up all night writing out the band parts of the latter tune, and judging by the waving of handkerchiefs by the large gathering of the fair sex from the quay this was a most appropriate one. The voyage lasted three days, the sea behaved properly



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throughout, and many would have welcomed a few days more. The Captain and all his officers were kindness itself, and were only too willing to do anything they possibly could to make the voyage a pleasant one. The troops were allowed far more latitude than on a trooper, and played games in the morning after "Rounds," including climbing hand over hand up the stays that hold up "the chimneys." The officers indulged in a mild game of skill and chance, while some of their number and all the married families danced each evening to the strains of the Regimental dance band. The band also played in the afternoon in the fore well deck for the edification of the troops and had a rousing reception.

Tolson and I were, to the best of my belief, the only representatives of the Regiment on board who did this journey in 1908, and the only other officers who are still serving with the Regiment who were on the *Hardinge* are Whittall and Paget. Some may remember how the very junior officers of the Royal Indian Marine used to always rise to the bait laid by Guy Blewitt, who would persist in always talking about "the blunt end of the boat," etc.

We arrived safely in Rangoon on the 25th, and, instead of proceeding up the river in the *Bhamo* and the *Sladen*, we found three trains waiting to take us up to Maymyo and Mandalay. With the exception that I delayed the first train by entirely forgetting the married families, there is little to tell of our railway journey. All went according to plan and we reached Maymyo at 11 a.m. on the 26th. Unfortunately the Railway Company had not budgeted for sufficient trucks for our baggage, with the result that this got

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strewn about their system, and of course those which they decided to send up the hill that evening did not contain the blankets. I fear, therefore, that many spent a cold night; however, we raked up everything we could find, and I hope everybody had some sort of covering.

The Manchester Regiment had vacated the barracks before we arrived, and had taken up their abode on the football ground so that we were able to go straight in. The Manchesters marched away in the afternoon to their trains, in which they had to spend the night of the 26th stationary in the station and the next night on the way to Rangoon.

Both Maymyo and Mandalay are much the same as they were when the 43rd were in Burma. Both the Clubs have been added to and are considerably more expensive. The polo grounds are just the same. Maymyo has a passable golf course except for the worm casts, and most of us hack our way round once or twice a week. One or two people are still here, notably Holman Hunt and Thyne, whom many will remember. Another well-known character has only lately left, Wilford, after commanding a regiment in Burma for a short time, has retired to England.

The garrison of Burma has been very much reduced: whereas in 1908 there were The Scots Fusiliers at Rangoon, The Welch Fusiliers at Shwebo, The Irish Rifles at Maymyo, and the 43rd at Thayetmyo, Mandalay and Meiktla, there are now only the Camerons at Mingledoon, with detachments in Rangoon and the Andamans, and the 52nd at Maymyo, with one company at Mandalay. In addition there used to be five Indian regiments, now there are the

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Maharratta Light Infantry and 1st Madras Pioneers in the Fort Mandalay, the 3/20th and the training battalion, Burma Rifles, at Maymyo, and 2/15th Punjabis at Rangoon. The military police are, however, I am glad to say, still with us and, as ever, the mainstay of the polo. The Police Week, followed by the Mandalay Week, with the usual polo tournaments are, as I write, in progress; we have been down to watch the polo, and realise that we have got to go like blazes and be stick perfect to be any good. The majority of the officers also attended the military police ball which was a great show. I got to bed at 5 a.m. and I think others were considerably after me. Christmas is upon us and loads of provisions, accompanied by hogsheads of beer, are finding their way into barracks for dinners to-morrow. I gather the day starts at reveille with coffee and rum so all should go well.

In conclusion we hope to see our Editor, General Higgins, accompanied by Mrs. Higgins, in Maymyo this summer, and will do our best to show him that the "April Week" is still up to the standard of "the good old days."

A.E.S.

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# SOME REFERENCES TO THE REGIMENT IN CLASSICAL FICTION

THE books referring to the Regiment in history are all catalogued in the CHRONICLE for 1922, but the following additions from fictional works may not be so generally known to all subscribers to the CHRONICLE.

The most celebrated reference to the Regiment in fiction is, of course, in *Pickwick*. Dickens was evidently sufficiently interested in the 43rd and 52nd to place them together at Rochester. There can be little doubt that he got the name of Snodgrass from the officer of that name serving in the 52nd at the time, as he was always on the lookout for unusual names. It would, however, appear very problematical if "Dr. Payne of the 43rd," who so enraged Mr. Pickwick as to make his "breast swell . . . almost to the bursting of his waistcoat," ever existed.

Moreover, we cannot take Mr. Jingle's appearance in the "theatricals got up by the officers of the 52nd," as an accepted historical fact, as Napier assures us that the furthest advance the 52nd would make to Melpomene was to attend the 43rd performance with "circumspect good humour."

In Hardy's *Dynasts*, both the 43rd and 52nd are mentioned. In the scene recounting the adventures of some deserters in the retreat from Corunna, the following extract is of interest:

". . . First Deserter (a new plashing of feet is heard): 'Here's something more in order or I am

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much mistaken.' (He cranes out.) 'Yes, a Serjeant of the 43rd, and what's left of their second battalion. And, by God, not far behind I see shining helmets. 'Tis a whole squadron of French Dragoons!'

"Enter the Sergeant. He has a racking cough, but endeavours, by stiffening himself up, to hide how it is wasting away his life. He halts, and looks back, till the remainder of the Forty-third are abreast, to the number of some three hundred, about half of whom are crippled invalids, the other half being presentable and armed soldiery.

"Sergeant: 'Now show yer nerve, and be men. If you die to-day you won't have to die to-morrow. Fall in! (The miscellany falls in.) All invalids and men without arms march ahead as well as they can. Quick—mar-r-r-ch! (Exeunt invalids, etc.) Now! Tention! Shoulder-r-r—fawlocks!' (Order obeyed.)

"The sergeant hastily forms these into platoons, who prime and load, and seem preternaturally changed from what they were into alert soldiers. Enter French Dragoons at the left-back of the scene. The rear platoon of the Forty-third turns, fires and proceeds. The next platoon covering them does the same. This is repeated several times, staggering the pursuers. Exeunt French Dragoons, giving up the pursuit. The coughing sergeant and the remnant of the Forty-third march on. . . ."

The 52nd are mentioned in the act devoted to the battle of Waterloo.

". . . The second echelon of the Imperial Guard has come up to the assault. Its columns have borne upon Halkett's right. Halkett, desperate to keep his wavering men firm, himself seizes and waves the flag

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of the Thirty-third, in which act he falls wounded. But the men rally. Meanwhile the 52nd, covered by the Seventy-first, has advanced across the front, and charges the Imperial Guard on the flank. The third echelon next arrives at the English lines and squares; rushes through the very focus of their fire, and seeing nothing more in front, raises a shout.

"Imperial Guard: 'The Emperor! It's Victory!'

"Wellington: 'Stand up, Guards! Form line upon the front face of the square!'

. . . . . .

"Wellington: 'Now drive the fellows in! They will not stand.'

"Adams' brigade, including the Fifty-second under Colonel Colbourne, attacks the French guard.

"Colbourne (shouting): 'Forward! Right shoulders forward, Fifty-second!'

"Wellington: 'Ha! Colbourne—you say well! Go on; go on! You'll do it now!'

"Colbourne converges on the French Guard with the Fifty-second, and the former splits into two as the climax comes. Adam, Maitland and Colbourne pursue their advantage. The Imperial columns are broken, and their confusion is increased by grape-shot from Bolton's battery. . . ."

Whatever the accuracy of Hardy's account of the battle from the historical point of view, it is interesting to note that he puts the forward movement of Saltoun's Guards at a period in the battle definitely later than the charge of the 52nd.

In the speeches of Daniel O'Connell, the Irish patriot, we find the following passage:

". . . There was not one who heard him who did

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not mourn in affection, in dress, or in heart, for some relative or friend who fell in the field of battle. His own heart-strings were torn asunder by the loss of a beloved brother, the companion of his youth and the offspring of the same loins. A kinsman of his, too, died at the storming of St. Sebastian. Three times did he mount the breach, and he fell at last, covered with wounds and with glory. He was as gay and as lovely a youth as ever shed his blood in defence of his country, and as fair withal as ever trod on the green sward of Erin. He could not choose but name him. It was Lieut. John O'Connell of the Forty-third Regiment. . . ."

This speech is one of the selected English speeches published by the Oxford University Press.

M. T. STEPHENS.

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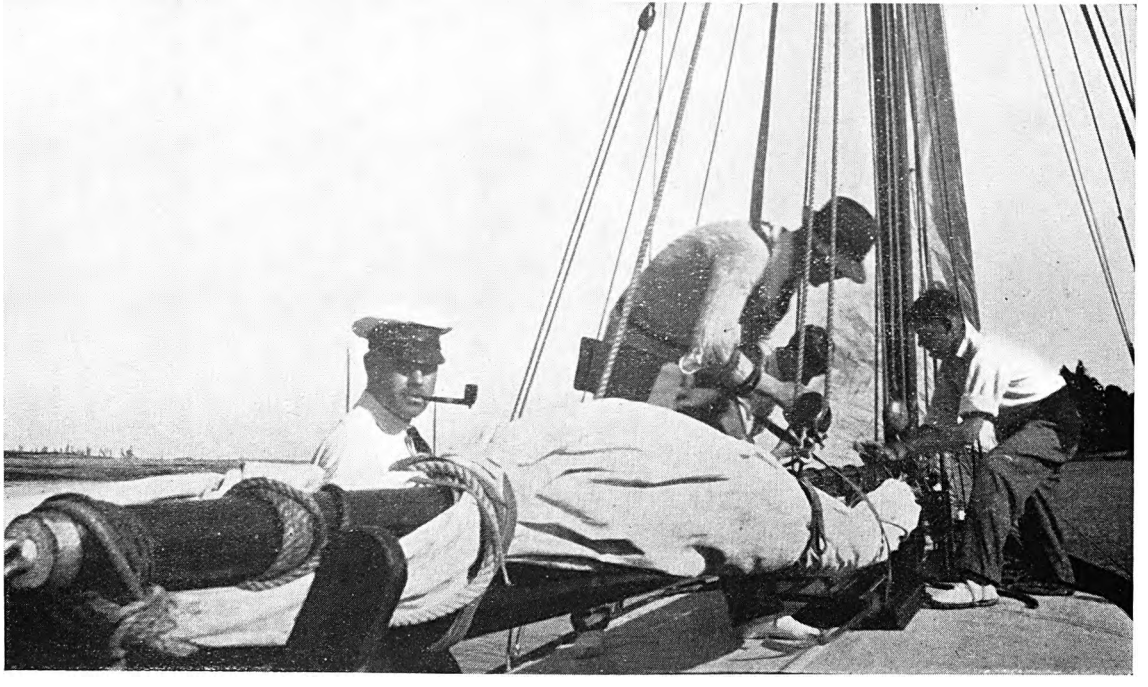

MEADE'S YACHT.
"Toujours Prest."

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## SAILING IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT

In the words of the Society Gossip writer, "The following were noticed amongst those who wore yachting caps: Col. Day (with the R.Y.S. badge, much to the envy of many members of the Bembridge Sailing Club), Bailie, Meade, Burt-Smith, Clarke, Spence, Edmunds, Bernard" (for garden parties and when going to certain dinner-parties and dances).

Few of us had any sailing experience before coming here, and during our first summer we were not certain how best to go about it: whether to join the various sailing clubs, to charter, or to buy our own craft.

The Colonel had his own boat *The Dish*, which he kept near his house on Wootton Creek, while Meade and Spence chartered a Yarmouth One Design (one of the numerous Solent classes) and got very wet, but had a lot of fun out of her. The former has now become the owner of a eight and a half ton cutter, the *Toujours Prest*, which also harbours in Wootton Creek. Burt-Smith and Edmunds were his regular crew, and they helped him fit out the vessel at the beginning of this season. They had one quite exciting day in mid-Solent when their foresail carried away and they narrowly escaped being driven on Lee-on-the-Solent pier, but eventually they crept back into Wootton Creek with their jib alone set, "old Hales" coming out to help them on the last stage of their journey past the mud banks.

Packe kept *Pierrette* at Seaview: he became a prominent member of the Club there and also, later,

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represented them on the Schneider Trophy Committee. We hope eventually to see him Mayor of his local town.

Bailie, Bernard and Spence were much superior and sailed at Bembridge in the Club boats. These may be used for cruising, fishing, "scurries" or racing, and are easy to handle, but navigation at Bembridge is extremely difficult owing to the very narrow channel and the more professional members of the Club, out of whose way the novices feverishly attempt to keep, also one is entirely at the mercy of the tide. The Club reaped a large harvest of half-crowns from some of us, this coin being the fine imposed for running on the mud and having to be rescued by the Club boatmen.

Bernard got a "first," a "second" and a "third" during the season, and only had a row (a dispute, not a voyage in a dinghy) with one man. He was, however, one day anchored in mid-channel when a steamer carrying coal came along, and, unable to move from the channel, it hit him hard astern. No more was done than the frightening of his passengers.

All put on clean white tops for Cowes Week, except Doyne, who came into the Squadron wearing a check coat with a diamond fox in his tie: he wasn't turned out.

It was a dull week as far as racing was concerned, there being very little breeze most days; but the start of the big classes was a wonderful sight even on a calm day, and there were a large number of yachts competing throughout the week. Clarke was very busy getting married and so was unable to repeat his experience of last season, when he was one of the crew

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on Bobby Somerset's *Penboch*, which won the Channel race from Cowes to Cherbourg and back with five hours to spare. Graham, Slessor and Rowley were aboard *White Heather*, but it was in the capacity of diners, not as extra hands.

The French Army must have a good impression of the amount of work done by the average British soldier. Withington came down for three days during Cowes Week, bringing with him the Adjutant of St. Cyr. He saw one morning's work, and then went over the British Fleet at Portsmouth in the afternoon. The next day he spent either at the Squadron or sailing, and the day following he left, having been to three dances in the three nights he was with us. Towards the end of the last evening he was ejaculating repeatedly, " If you give me anozer glass of ze champagne I will talk ze english." I think he enjoyed himself and he certainly added colour to the dances in his French uniform.

All those who could came down from Tidworth to see the race for the Schneider Trophy. The race was watched from all sorts of places. Clifton was the only man who got leave under false pretences as he slept peacefully in the bottom of Meade's boat, throughout the day. This in itself was a surprising achievement as the vessel was the scene of much activity and excitement. They ran aground three times in Wootton Creek to the great distress of all aboard except the skipper. Anxiety to get to their anchorage in time to see the race inspired the passengers to Herculean efforts with oar and barge-pole to get off the mud. When they eventually arrived at their allotted anchorage, repeated attempts were made

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to moor on to the East Cowes buoy. While trying to make it the engine gave out; then Boileau and Graham were detailed to row off with a hawser and tow the *Toujours Prest* against the fast running tide. They managed to reach the buoy but, in the tug-of-war which ensued, lost both their dinghy and the parent boat, which was now running amok amongst the fleet of spectators, and were left marooned on the buoy at the mercy of the waves. Eventually, by the united efforts of the British and Algerian Navies, order was restored and they cast anchor in their allotted berth. Shortage of cable, however, caused their anchor to drag, and it was not until 8.30 p.m. when they fished for and caught their moorings in Wootton, that they finally came to rest (on the mud) after an eventful and thoroughly enjoyable day.

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# SOME THOUGHTS ON STOCK-BREEDING

By Lieut.-Col. Guy Blewitt, D.S.O., M.C.

In writing the following article, I hope my readers will not think I am in any way trying to advertise our own farm and its products, nor that I wish to give the impression that our methods are any better than other peoples'. I simply give my own experience in stock-breeding for what it is worth, and ask pardon if I seem too egotistical. I do not aspire to write anything new on the subject, nor do I apologise for it. It is not necessary to be a farmer to be attracted by its appeal, for who has not wanted to perpetuate the strain of his favourite horse or dog by breeding? Who, when riding on to a meet on an icy February morning, has not been thrilled by the first sight of early lambs, all legs and tails, frolicking at the heels of their anxious mothers? The ewes eye the intruder furtively and, like the silly creatures that they are, stampede to the far end of the fold.

Or again, who, on a warm evening in July, has not stopped to look with a feeling of pleasure and perhaps of wonder at a brood mare with her sleek side and huge belly, for ever nibbling the short, sweet grass? Her foal, lying stretched out as if for dead some little distance off, wakes dreaming that he has lost her, jumps up, shakes himself, and gallops off to her side, whilst she, all unperturbed, keeps nibbling in order to keep herself and him in food.

Stock-breeding can be made to suit all pockets.

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For the really rich man that of the thoroughbred horse is the highest and most interesting form of breeding. There is no limit to the money that can be spent on it, and it is capable of the largest returns provided it is carried out with consummate judgment and with the use of fashionable sires. With the price of a service at anything up to 500 guineas, the man of limited means, who cannot stand a run of bad luck, will be far better advised to indulge in breeding some other form of stock.

We (Guy and Ralph Blewitt, of Boxted Hall Farms) have never been able to afford to breed anything but commercial stock. By commercial stock, I mean stock for which you expect to get a good market price either for general use or slaughter, as opposed to pedigree stock, where your market is limited to the few requiring a particular animal for breeding purposes.

This does not mean that we do not hope eventually to create a demand for our stock which will command prices higher than commercial prices, but when it comes it will be achieved by the use of good sires and the careful selection of good and elimination of bad commercial females, and not by the purchase of expensive pedigree females. I will try shortly to enumerate the reasons which guided us in our selection of breeds when we started farming seven years ago. For a farmhorse we chose the Suffolk Punch, with his shining golden or liver coat, high crest and short stocky appearance which accounts for his name. They appealed to me as being the ideal farm horse, clean of leg, wonderful "doers," active and staunch in draft, long-lived and sound, docile and easy to break

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in. Shires seemed to be unnecessarily big and expensive to keep, and unsuited to continuous work in dirt on account of their feather and liability to grease. The big price fetched by geldings at six years old and upwards for work on the roads was undoubtedly the incentive which led to their extensive breeding and use on the land. With the advent of mechanical power for most of the really heavy draft work on the roads, the demand for the heavy Shire decreased. For cattle we selected the Dairy Shorthorn. We were going in for milking, and as we had a large acreage to stock, and consequently wanted a considerable head of cattle at a moderate price, there was really no alternative to the Shorthorn, though the local Red Poll was attractive.

The Shorthorn can fairly be said to be the breed most generally met with in England whether pedigree or non-pedigree; is hardy, suited to wintering out in our climate, and is as good a dual purpose (milk and beef) animal as you can get, though I hate the term. I consider that to be successful you have got to decide whether you are breeding for milk or beef—in our case we breed for milk—but the fact that Shorthorn bull calves command a price on the market to fatten is a distinct advantage when compared with the Jersey or Friesian.

For pigs we chose the Large Black. It is necessary to decide whether you are breeding for pork or bacon before selecting a breed of pig. If breeding for pork, the hot summer months have got to be reckoned wit when the public are not so partial to "a nice piece of pork." We are well placed as regards bacon factories that will take pigs all the year round. Our

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choice therefore lay with the bacon pig, and as a producer of bacon pigs—the Large Black.

The Large Black pig crossed with a Large White Boar produces white or blue and white pigs—never black ones. There is a distinct prejudice against black pigs on account of a tendency to a discoloration of the side due to the black pigment in the skin—known as seedy cut. The Large Black has large litters, is a good mother, is hardy and suited to living out of doors in all weathers, and when crossed with a Large White boar produces the pig required both by the factories and markets in our neighbourhood.

There is a golden rule for those who cannot afford "fancies." If in doubt, breed the animal of the country. To produce Gloucester Spot pigs in Essex, or Devon cattle in the Midlands is not a commercial proposition.

On the general run of farms, I do not think that sufficient care is exercised in the selection of sires for use in a stud, herd or flock. A sire is half the stud, herd or flock, and his attributes will be conveyed in a greater or lesser degree to all his offspring even though they are out of females of only commercial value. By persisting in a succession of good sires, improvement will be effected far more economically than by any other means. Luck plays an important part in breeding, though it is often mistaken for good judgment. We came in for our full share of luck with the first bull I ever bought. I have bought several since that only turned out moderate. I was looking out for a bull at the Royal Show at Cambridge, and there was one I had marked on the catalogue as being all right on paper for our requirements, having thir-

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teen one-thousand-gallon cows in the last five generations of his pedigree. When he came into the ring he was flat-sided and dead lame, and he did not fetch his reserve. After the sale I went to Mr. Frank Matthews of Thornton & Co. and asked him to look out for a bull for me with which to start a dairy herd. He at once asked me why I hadn't bought the bull in question—Foggathorpe Victory. I told him I thought £150 was a lot to pay for a 10-months' old bull that had flat sides and couldn't walk. He said he couldn't buy me another bred like him for milk if I gave him a cheque for £500. I bought Foggathorpe Victory. A fortnight in a paddock at home, with little but grass to eat, put him right on his feet; he had been overcaked for show; so many good animals are spoilt that way. He got us 80 heifer calves before we sold him at four years old to go to a pedigree herd for £250. The year after we bought him his dam won the milking trials at the Royal Show against all breeds, giving over 83¼ lbs. of milk in the ring, with 3.87 per cent. of butter fat. He is the foundation of our herd, and has imparted the milking properties of his family in the most consistent way to his offspring. Whilst on the subject of milk, it is worth observing that the female that "does" her young well, whether mare, sow or ewe, is the good milker, and so the value of milking properties is not confined to the cow only. A sow that does not milk well should be fattened before she has lost much money breeding. Constitution is an important factor in breeding, and seems to be most hereditary.

We have an old Suffolk Punch mare, "Ruby" 5763, 24 years old this year, that does as much work



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as any other horse on the farm; she was a regular breeder up to 20 years of age. At 17 years old she had a foal by Sudbourne Beau Brocade, called Boxted Brocade, which won a number of prizes as a two-year-old, finishing up with a third at the Royal Show. He would have swept the board but for a tendency he developed to turn a toe in, a failing the old mare has herself and imparts unfailingly to all her progeny. It is one I do not object to for work. One naturally clings to the fillies from a mare like Ruby to breed from in preference to those from mares of a less hardy strain. The photograph shows Ruby with seven of her children and grandchildren at present on the farm.

The factor of constitution comes out very strongly in the breeding of pigs. We breed 700–800 pigs a year, and as already stated, have found the Large White—Large Black cross the most suitable for our purpose; but in order to keep our herd of pure Large Blacks it is necessary to breed a proportion pure, and for this purpose we have always kept the very best sows to go to a Large Black boar. After seven years of selection we find that the sows from which we are now breeding pure-bred Large Blacks go back almost without exception to one original sow, Vaughan Orchard Girl 3rd, bought from Mr. S. F. Edge.

It is often imagined that after a misalliance the offspring by a subsequent pure-bred sire will be affected, implying that the female is permanently damaged by the misalliance. I have inquired of a well-known doctor, who assured me that this theory, so deeply-rooted in the minds of many, is absolutely

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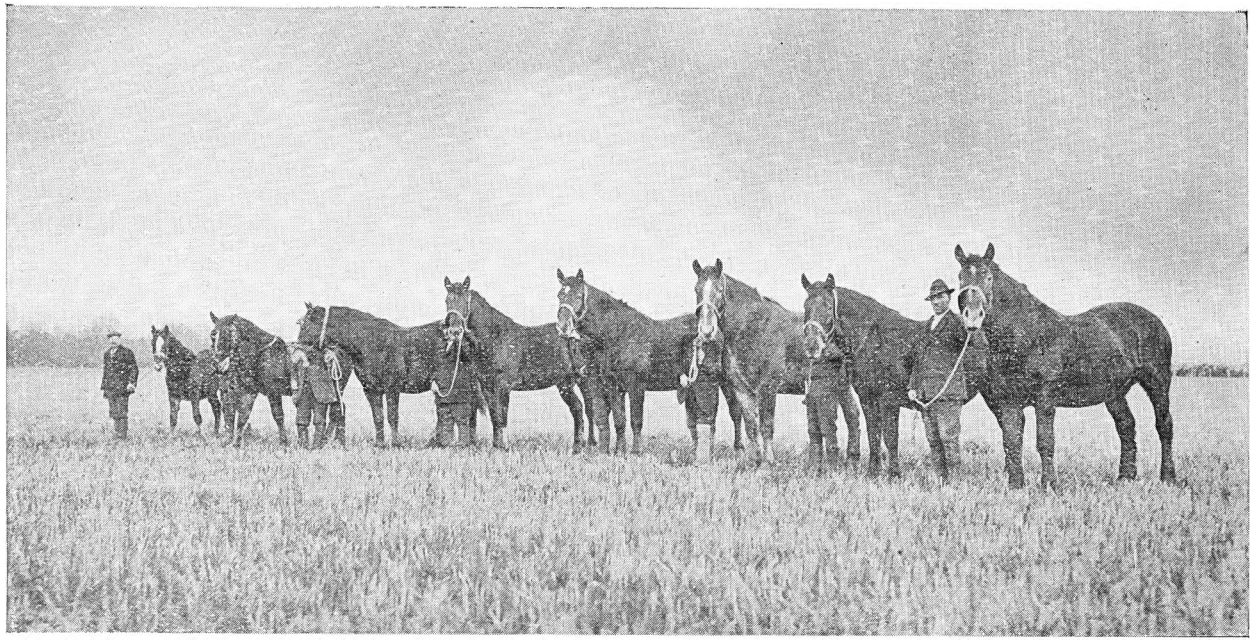

RUBY'S OFFSPRING AND DESCENDANTS.

(*From Left to Right*).—Ruby (1906), Cockfield Hero—Useful (by Smith's Wedgewood). Westwood May Morn (1919), Darsham Valentine—Ruby. Beefer (1921), Freston Khedive—Ruby. Boxted Jewel (1925), Judex—Ruby. Boxted Judy (1926), Judex—Ruby. Boxted Bacchus (1925), Tattingstone Beau Esprit—Westwood May Morn. Boxted Maypole (1928), Sudbourne Foch—Westwood May Morn. Boxted Mayfly (1929), Sudbourne Foch—Westwood May Morn.

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fallacious. This is easily proved by breeding with a Large Black boar from a Large Black sow that has previously had blue and white pigs by a Large White boar. The result is always absolutely pure Large Blacks.

I have read that the number of young produced by a female at a birth is not hereditary, but of this I am somewhat sceptical, imagining that the gilts from a sow that has good litters are likely to have good litters, too. My experience with cattle has been that twins appear repeatedly in some families and not in others.

And now for a word about feeding. Show condition is most detrimental to breeding. A breeding animal, whether male or female, should be in good, hard condition, well-nourished and active, not fat and sluggish.

Enough good food and exercise produces condition. It is not a bit of good breeding from an animal if you don't do it well. The result will only be failure and disappointment. The mare, cow, sow, or ewe must be fed whilst she is carrying, or suckling her young, and then when the young is weaned, it in turn must get all it requires whilst growing.

Our land is deficient in lime, and should therefore produce animals deficient in bone. We try to rectify this by giving mares and cows steam bone flour whilst carrying and suckling their young, and to the young themselves when weaned. This has marked results.

Most of our youngsters treated in this way have the same heavy bone. We got 2nd at the Royal Show this year with a 4-year-old Suffolk gelding, after it had won numerous prizes at local and County shows.

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This is not done without a horse has outstanding bone and action.

Our dairy herd has an average of 950 gallons of milk per cow per annum. They are "steamed up" before calving, starting with 2 lbs. of concentrates a day six weeks before, increasing to 6 lbs. immediately before calving. It is improbable that the herd would achieve this average and produce calves worth keeping if sufficient attention was not paid to feeding, not only concentrates but minerals. The most depressing feature in breeding anything is to reckon the expense, and the most depressing breed to cost, the hunter. There is an old saying: "If you want to break a farmer give him a hunter mare to breed from, and if that doesn't do it give him another." Let us put it to the test:

*Keep of Mare*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Six months on grass at 4s. a week | £4 | 16s. | od. |
| Six months on oats and hay at 8s. a week | £9 | 12s. | od. |
| | £14 | 8s. | od. |

So the mare costs £15 to keep for a year, and if she is a certain age and has not bred before as likely as not she will not have a foal. Let us assume, however, that our farmer has accepted the mare, kept it for a year, and the foal is born. His first two years he should get 5 lbs. of oats a day winter and summer, in addition to hay in winter and grazing in summer. He will, therefore, cost £18 a year for the first two years. His third summer he can go out to grass without oats, but he will want handling and properly shoeing, so

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that we can still reckon him at £18 a year. When he arrives at four years old he will have cost:

£15 for the mare.
£54 for the keep of the foal for three years.

Total £69

Then comes the year of breaking and training, which cannot cost less than £75—most people will deny being able to keep a hunter for that price. Our farmer, therefore, if he had costed his five-year-old, would have found it to be £144. But he will be lucky if one out of every two bred is the right size and conformation for hunting, and has survived five years without developing one of the ills to which horseflesh is prone, so then, to make breeding hunters pay, our farmer would want £300 for his horse. How few farmers get £200 for a five-year-old hunter they have bred, and how many buyers think the farmer is "opening his mouth too wide" if he asks £150.

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# COLLECTIVE TRAINING ON SALISBURY PLAIN, 1929

READERS of last year's CHRONICLE who waded through the rigmarole about Collective Training in 1928, may remember that we hopped from Parkhurst to Newtown, Newtown to Brook, Brook to Tidworth Pennings, Tidworth Pennings to Boscombe.

This year we did exactly the same thing except that at Tidworth Pennings we sliced our hop and landed at Fargo instead of at Boscombe.

This article deals only with our doings on Salisbury Plain, so we will start from August 18, on which day we installed ourselves at Tidworth Pennings.

August 19 and 20 were taken up with the Southern Command Rifle meeting, where we finished third in the aggregate of weapon training events.

On August 21 an Infantry Transport Competition was held, followed by an officers' jumping contest. In the former event we again finished third and, as regards the latter, we would rather not hear any more about it.

However, as the editor of the REGIMENTAL JOURNAL has pointed out in his November issue, the above results, coupled with our second place in the Congreve Cup competition and fourth place in the Army athletic championships, show that the Regiment is always well in the running at everything, which is what we want.

The first Brigade Exercise started on August 22 and finished on August 23.

We fought the 7th Infantry Brigade which is

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experimental and is composed of three Infantry battalions, all with mechanized machine guns and first line transport, plus one light tank battalion. Each side was also given its quota of field and light artillery.

By nightfall on the 22nd, we were installed in a defensive position on Silk Hill facing north, and awaiting the onslaught of our friends the enemy.

They arrived during the night like earwigs infiltrating into our position from " The Wig " and, as they came, they were " Flitted " by our forward posts and passed back as prisoners to Brigade Headquarters.

Thirty-five prisoners in all were passed through, including a souvenir officer of the 60th Rifles, but we lost one whole machine gun section in the doing of it.

At dawn on August 23 the real crash came when the enemy light tank battalion overran our position, closely followed by the 60th Rifles.

In reserve behind us, however, was a company of medium tanks and they in turn overran the enemy light tanks with a well-timed counter attack and

> Confusion was confounded
> When the Cease Fire sounded.

On August 26 and 27, we carried out Brigade Exercise, No. 2, which was staged around the Experimental gas station at Porton.

The scheme was devised to study the use of gas and smoke and to test anti-gas protective measures.

The Welch Regiment acted as enemy to the rest of the 9th Infantry Brigade. They gassed us and we gassed them, and both of us gassed the partridges of the Porton shoot. The gas used, however, although unpleasant, was innocuous, and we under-

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stand that these most sporting of all game birds remained to die in the way they are used to dying.

An exercise set by the G.O.C. 3rd Division, in which we again opposed the 7th Infantry Brigade, started on August 29 and finished on the following day.

There is always an element of humour in the schemes set by the Divisional Commander, which at any rate start everyone off with a smile and the general idea in this case had the usual sparkle.

It ran as follows :—

"1. The Republic of CLEMENTINA (RED) has had a dispute with SOUTHSEA (BLUE), a Maritime State. Diplomacy, arbitration, conciliation, plebiscite, and the personal interference of the President of the United States having alike failed to settle the dispute, the contending States have, by arrangement with the League of Nations, hired the territory of Wiltshire, a peaceful but impoverished country, in which to arrive at a settlement of their quarrel by the old, though now unfashionable, method of armed force.

"2. The inhabitants in the area of operations are thus neutral but interested spectators, since all damage by the belligerents to crops, gates, fences, etc., has to be made good and paid for at League of Nations rates.

"3. The opening battle, which took place in the neighbourhood of Swindon, was indecisive; but RED has since been reinforced, and the BLUE forces are now retiring in good order and several columns towards the Wylye Valley. They got a good start and have so far not been seriously pressed by RED."

Those who know the nickname of the gallant Brigadier who commands the 7th Infantry Brigade

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will have no difficulty in deducing the fact that we were the Blue force.

It is difficult to describe the operations without referring to maps which readers of the CHRONICLE are not likely to have.

Actually on August 29 the 43rd took up a defensive position on Pewsey Hill, overlooking the Vale of Pewsey. Then, owing to a flanking movement by the enemy, we withdrew to Everleigh and spent most of the night repelling attacks made by the 60th Rifles who were trying to capture the village.

About an hour before dawn we were ordered to break away and retire to Coombe Hill. Then the fun began. We broke away all right, but when dawn came the whole plain was enveloped in a dense fog.

We got out our compasses and made for our new position. We still claim that we got there, but nobody seems to believe us. One newspaper had the audacity to say that the 43rd got lost in the fog and were destroyed by enemy tanks. We did, in fact, encounter the said tanks, but if the newspaper correspondent had seen our volleys of flints, which represented the fire of our green flags, which again represented our anti-tank guns, he would have told a different story.

By this time the fog of nature, mixed with the fog of war, had produced complete opacity, and we almost felt as if we were repeating history when the cry went up "Where are the 43rd?"

At any rate we knew where we were sufficiently well to be the first home when the "Cease Fire" sounded.

From August 31 to September 3 we rested hard, and on the morning of September 4, we marched in

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Brigade to Cholderton to take part in the Southern Command exercises.

Again it is impossible to describe the operations without a map, but our first objective when operations started at 3 p.m. was crossing "C" over the Avon just north of Durrington.

It may be remembered that Wednesday, September 4, was the hottest September day on record and, as the hours went by with the sun beating down on our backs, we felt like the Darkie on the road to Vicksburg, that we were just about holding our own.

We got to the Avon somehow, but not without casualties from heat stroke, and then went on outpost duty west of the river.

The following morning we continued to march west towards Tilshead and, the more we marched, the more it occurred to us that we were getting a mighty long way from home.

When operations ended, however, a pleasant surprise came to us in the form of a convoy of motor lorries into which we hopped and were back in camp in no time.

It transpired that the G.O.C.-in-C. thought we had all done our bit pretty well, and had suddenly ordered out every mechanized vehicle in the Command to take us home.

How we blessed him!

On September 6 we slept, and on the 7th, the lucky ones saw the Schneider Cup race on the Solent, and the less fortunate pitched our new camp at Fargo.

Then we became serious, if not awed, at the prospect of the grand finale of the War Office Exercises.

We read in the papers that the 2nd Division was

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marching from Aldershot towards Salisbury Plain to put us wise. Masses of Red Hats appeared on the scene, and "General Ideas" and "Instructions" were printed instead of being merely type-written.

All the same we had a sneaking feeling that, whatever Aldershot could show us, we could show them Salisbury Plain, and on September 9 we sallied forth to our old friend the Porton area where we gassed ourselves in, and taped ourselves in, and awaited events.

The larger the operations the smaller individual units are liable to become, but it so happened that the 43rd were sent to hold the key position on the extreme right flank of the 3rd Division front at Warren Court. (Again a map is necessary.)

We held it in spite of umpires and in spite of the Guards Brigade who ignored, not only our ordinary defences, but our gas defences as well. They had not been educated up to Porton methods, apparently, and did not recognize the appalling danger of the red powder we had put down for their destruction. It smells like tooth paste and that may have given them a false sense of security.

Anyway at 4 p.m. we had been driven off the Warren Court position and had retired to Ashley's Copse. Here the C.I.G.S. himself visited the scene and decided that a condition of stalemate had been reached, so the opposing forces were unmixed and re-organised.

Later on in the evening we were ordered to withdraw to Pheasant Wood where we spent the night.

Next morning the 7th Infantry Brigade put in a light tank attack against Tower Hill, and we were following in their wake when the "Standfast"

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sounded, and we marched to our new camp at Fargo.

On Sunday, September 15, we marched to Warminster, where the 3rd Division, with attached troops, concentrated for War Office exercise No. 2. A long march on a hot day.

Early the next morning we advanced west through Imber, surely the most isolated village in England, and spent the early part of that night in Divisional Reserve at Warminster Bottom Farm.

At 2 a.m. we moved forward again and, after a difficult night march, we crossed the Tilshed—West Lavington road and assembled at New Copse.

At the first streak of dawn the whole Division advanced west to seize the commanding ridge north and south of Ell Barrow, and, after heavy fighting, including a spectacular tank battle, the enemy withdrew towards the Avon.

Then commenced a long and tedious pursuit. Gunner officers talk a lot about what they call the "false crest" and, the hotter we got, the more we thought that Salisbury Plain must be the home of "false crests" as we never seemed to get to the top of anything. We saw little or nothing of the 2nd Division who had apparently retired across the Avon, and we were in a state of wondering what to do next when the "Cease Fire" sounded at 7 p.m.

On September 18, we packed up and on 19 we returned to the Isle of Wight, reaching Parkhurst at 4.30 p.m.

So ended Collective Training for 1929. We may not have learned so many "lessons" as last year, as we had not so many to learn, but we made some interesting "discoveries."

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1. We discovered Imber.

The Regiment found it quite by accident buried in the waterless wastes of the Salisbury Desert.

We feel that an Ode should be written to commemorate this important event, but, as the only words that rhyme with "Imber" are "limber" and "timber," the problem presents difficulties :—

> The paint on the timber
> Of Nobby's pet limber
> Got burnt to a cinder
> When hunting for Imber.

This is admittedly atrocious, especially "cinder" but perhaps somebody else can do better.

2. A "tapeless" gas mask has been discovered in Letter "A" Company. The Depot Museum should acquire this valuable relic of the past.

3. Ashley's Copse is haunted. The ghost is a blond young subaltern who leads his phantom platoon through the woods at midnight shouting "Here I come."

Although his calling broke our hard-earned slumbers, the night before the battle of Warren Court, it gave us confidence to know that he was there to help us on the morrow.

4. Fargo is no better as a camping ground than Boscombe, except that it is nearer to Stonehenge and farther away from the Haunch of Venison.

The former fact was of no advantage to anyone, but the latter seriously affected those interested in old English inns.

5. Shaving before dawn is never a pleasant

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occupation, but, this year, we discovered the " musical shave," which we can strongly recommend. The best tunes to shave to at this unearthly hour are " The Gay Caballero " and " The Song of the Prune."

6. Our latest " discovery " is that we are not going to Salisbury Plain in 1930. This will be a relief to readers of the CHRONICLE as well as to the writer of this article.

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# OCCASIONAL NOTES

## Marriage

Clarke—Leech. On July 25, 1929, at St. Saviours' Church, Brockenhurst, by the Rev. H. D. Butler, Rector of Inkpen, Berks, Lieut. W. G. Clarke, 43rd Light Infantry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarke, Wayside, Brockenhurst, to Dorothy Eleanor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leech, Walden, Brockenhurst.

## Yeoman Usher of Black Rod

*From "The Morning Post," July 27, 1929*

"Sir Thomas Dacres Butler will on Wednesday retire as Yeoman-Usher of the Black Rod and Secretary to the Lord Great Chamberlain. His successor will be Lord Esmé Gordon-Lennox.

"The first report of the Select Committee on the House of Lords officers refers to Sir Thomas Butler's retirement, and records appreciation of his valuable services during the past 37 years."

Sir Thomas Dacre Butler was appointed Ensign to 52nd June 2, 1865; Lieutenant June 3, 1868; Captain October 31, 1871. An article by this officer entitled "Inter-Regimental Rifle Match held at Malta 1871" appeared in Vol. I Chronicle, 1892.

Bt.-Lieut.-Colonel B. C. T. Paget, D.S.O., M.C., has been a Military Student at the Imperial Defence College during the past year.

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Captain H. E. F. Smyth, M.C., passed for admission to the Staff College, Camberley.

Captain E. H. Whitfeld, M.C., has received a nomination for admission to the Staff College, Quetta.

Colonel W. H. M. Freestun, C.M.G., D.S.O., has been selected for command of the 158th (R. Welch) Inf. Bde.

Captain P. Booth has been appointed temporary Private Secretary to the Governor of Bihar and Orissa.

Major F. Colquhoun, who has been installed a Military Knight of Windsor recently, served for four years in the ranks of the 1st Bn. before being given (from Lce.-Sergeant) a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the Leicestershire Regiment.

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LIEUTENANT F. C. HOLLAND.

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# OBITUARY

## Francis Cuyler Holland

Francis Cuyler Holland died in Victoria, British Columbia, on December 28, 1928, after having undergone an operation.

He was born in Canada on February 20, 1899, and was educated at Haileybury and the R.M. College, Sandhurst, which he joined as a cadet in 1917.

Gazetted to the Regiment in 1918, he joined the 52nd in France in October of that year, being posted to " D " Company and to the command of the platoon which had been his brother's, J. D. C. Holland, who was killed when serving with the 52nd at Beaumont Hamel on November 13, 1916.

Frank Holland accompanied the 52nd to the Rhine, and subsequently went with the composite battalion, which included a company of the Regiment, to North Russia.

Later in 1919 he rejoined the 52nd in Ireland and served with the Regiment until March, 1922, when he resigned his commission.

He was a very keen boxer and raised considerable enthusiasm for boxing in the Regiment. He boxed for Sandhurst against Woolwich.

After leaving the Regiment, Holland took up architecture, and for three years studied at the Architectural Association in London. He then for a time devoted himself to the formation of a paint company, but left this in 1926 to return to Canada, where he



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again took up architecture. He was devoted to Canada and was very happy there, and his enterprise was beginning to be rewarded.

Besides his architecture, and as a valuable addition to it, Holland was a keen artist and a landscape painter of great promise.

He also took a leading part in Toc H in Victoria, where he was chairman of the group. Letters and accounts from members show what a great influence his energy and ideals did for the movement and how much he is missed.

He married on July 29, 1926, Sylvia Grace, daughter of the Rev. Edward Hugh Moberly and granddaughter of Robert, Headmaster of Winchester College and afterwards Bishop of Salisbury.

All ranks who remember Holland will deeply regret the death of a friend, direct, loveable and sincere.

### Major R. C. Loverock, D.S.O., O.B.E.

Loverock.—In New York on April 17, 1929, Major Robert Charles Loverock, D.S.O., O.B.E., late of the Regiment. Major Loverock was gazetted to the Regiment from the ranks of the Durham Light Infantry in which he had served for sixteen years on November 7, 1914.

He was posted to the 43rd on their departure from India for Mesopotamia in 1914 and served with them till July 20, 1915, when he was appointed Assistant Embarkation Officer, India. He served in this capacity in India and Mesopotamia till March 27, 1923. He was mentioned in Despatches on October 19, 1916, August 15, 1917, March 12, 1918 and Apri

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LIEUT.-COLONEL G. A. SULLIVAN, D.S.O.

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30, 1919, and for his services was awarded the D.S.O. and O.B.E. He retired on retired pay on August 28, 1923.

## Lieut.-Colonel G. A. Sullivan, D.S.O.

Geoffrey Arnold Sullivan was born in Melbourne Australia, on March 30, 1880, and died in a nursing home in London on October 5, 1929. He was educated at Charterhouse and the R.M.C., Sandhurst, and was gazetted to the 1st Battalion on December 6, 1899. At Sandhurst he obtained the Sword of Honour and was in the Soccer XI. He went to S. Africa with the first battalion and served throughout the war with them. After doing duty with both battalions at home and abroad, he took up the appointment of A.D.C. to the Governor-General of Bombay on November 4, 1908, and held it until March 28, 1911. On the outbreak of the Great War he was appointed A.P.M. 2nd Div. British Exped. Force and went out to France with the 2nd Division and held during the period of the War and for several years afterwards various appointments in the Provost Marshal's branch. He retired on February 15, 1923. During all his service with the Regiment, Sullivan was a good and enthusiastic cricketer, football and hockey player and played consistently in the Regimental XI at all these games for many years. He was also very fond of yachting, knew the Norfolk Broads well and kept a small yacht at Southampton before the war. As a musician he became well known in the best musical circles being a first-class pianist and accompanist, and after his retirement took up this side of music

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professionally. His promotion and war services were as follows :—

2nd Lieut. December 6, 1899 ; Lieutenant January 11, 1901 ; Captain December 28, 1908 ; Major December 1, 1915 ; Bt.-Lieut.-Colonel June 3, 1919.

S. African War, 1900–2.—Relief of Kimberley—operations in Orange Free State February to May, 1900, including operations at Paardeberg February 17 to 26 ; actions at Poplar Grove and Driefontein. Queen's Medal with four clasps ; King's Medal with two clasps.

Great War, 1914–1919.—A.P.M., 2nd Div., B.E.F., August 5, 1914—February 9, 1915 ; A.P.M. 2nd Army Corps, B.E.F., February 10, 1915—September 17, 1916 ; P.M., 1st Army, B.E.F., September 18, 1916—April 30, 1919 ; D.P.M., G.H.Q., British Troops in France and Flanders, May 1, 1919—January 5, 1920 ; D.P.M., Southern Command, January 6, 1920—August 25, 1920 ; D.P.M. (C.L.X.), G.H.Q., Egyptian Ex. Force, January 12, 1921—March 31, 1921 ; D.P.M. (C.L.B.B.), Egypt Ex. Force, April 1, 1921—April 17, 1922.

Despatches, *London Gazette*.—February 17, June 22, 1915 ; January 1, 1916 ; December 11, 1917 ; December 20, 1918 and July 5, 1919. Brevet Lieut.-Colonel, Order of Leopold 5th Class ; Belgian War Cross ; 1914 Star ; D.S.O.

## Lieut.-Colonel L. E. S. Ward, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Lieut.-Colonel Launcelot Edward Seth Ward died in London after an operation on August 27, 1929, at the age of 54. The fourth son of the Rev. Percival

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Seth Ward, late rector of Spetchley and Warendon, Worcestershire, and previously Vicar of Apsley End, Herts., he was educated at Felstead School and entered the Army in 1897, being gazetted to the 2nd Battalion on December 1 in that year and joining them in India. He served throughout the Tirah Campaign with the 52nd and later was seconded to the King's East African Rifles with whom he saw considerable active service and eventually commanded the Regiment. On the outbreak of the Great War in 1914, he was in full command of the whole of the country's forces in East Africa. In the Legislative Council, the Governor on January 18, 1915, stated: "He took the opportunity to acknowledge with high appreciation the valuable service rendered to his country by Colonel L. E. Seth Ward at that critical period of the early days of the War, when, as Officer Commanding the Troops, he was responsible for the disposition of an inadequate force to the best advantage." Colonel Seth Ward was further mentioned in General Stewart's dispatches in which he stated "He wished to draw notice to Lieut.-Colonel L. E. Seth Ward—this Officer being in command of troops until the arrival of the first reinforcements. On his shoulders mainly fell the work of original organisation. To him are due the thanks of the whole Protectorate for the efficient arrangements he then made and my own thanks for the complete state in which I found these arrangements and later for the most efficient way he carried out the plans as my Chief Staff Officer."

After the East African Campaign Ward returned to England and was appointed on May 5, 1915, to the

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command of the West Ham Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, with the rank of temporary Lieutenant-Colonel. He served with the Royal Artillery from that date until the end of the War seeing much service in Flanders (Ypres Salient) and France generally. He was twice wounded. Ward had retired from the Regular Army with effect November 7, 1913, as a Captain, with permission to retain the temporary rank of Lieut.-Colonel while employed in command of the 4th Bn. King's African Rifles for one year from that date. On the conclusion of the Great War he was demobilised (May 1, 1919) with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1924 he became A.D.C. to Sir Charles Bowring, Governor of Nyasaland, and on the termination of this appointment in the spring of 1929, he bought a tea estate in Nyasaland with the intention of settling in that country. Ward was a good and keen cricketer and had played for All-India, the M.C.C. and the Free Foresters.

He was unmarried. His appointments and War Services were as follows :—

2nd Lieutenant December 1, 1897; Lieutenant October 28, 1898; Captain June 22, 1903; Tirah 1897–98, Medal with two clasps; Nandi 1905–06, Medal with clasp; East Africa (Somaliland) 1908–10, Despatches, *London Gazette*, June 17, 1910 (clasp); East Africa 1913–14, operations against the Mereham Tribe; the War, 1914–19, Despatches, *London Gazette*, January 4, 1917; February 1, 1917; May 28, 1917; December 14, 1917; December 23, 1918. 1914–15 Star, C.M.G., D.S.O., Clasp to D.S.O.

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BRIGADIER-GENERAL E. D. WHITE, C.M.G.

EDWARD DALRYMPLE WHITE was born on July 18, 1865, the son of the Rev. Adolphus Leighton White, Vicar of Mortimer West End, Berkshire, and nephew of Colonel Sir Lumley Graham, a former 43rd Officer. He was at school at Marlborough, passed through Sandhurst and was gazetted to the Regiment as Lieutenant on February 7, 1885. He joined the 52nd at Cairo in April of that year, and served with them for the next sixteen years in Egypt, India and Burma. He was Adjutant from 1891 to 1896 and was promoted Captain on July 27, 1892. He commanded "C" Company of the 52nd in the Mohmand and Tirah Campaigns of 1897–98.

On February 1, 1899, he married Constance, daughter of Henry Bloomfield Trench, Esq., of Huntington, Portarlington, Ireland, and sister of Lieut. H. W. B. Trench, who died whilst serving with the 52nd in the Tirah Campaign.

He was Adjutant of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion, Oxfordshire Light Infantry, from 1901 till 1906, was promoted Major on May 11, 1902, and rejoined the 52nd at Tidworth in February 1906. He commanded the Depot from 1907 to 1909 when he returned to the 52nd and served with them at Tidworth and Shorncliffe till on October 23, 1911, he was appointed to the command of the 43rd, and joined them at Wellington (India) in November. After two years in command he went voluntarily on half-pay in order that the next senior officer should not lose his chance of commanding—a very unselfish act, in which he placed the interests of the Regiment before his personal advantage.

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The outbreak of the War found him still on half pay, but in September 1914 he was appointed to the command of the 6th Battalion of the Regiment, went out with them to France in July 1915, and was invalided home in October 1916. In March 1917 he was given the command of the 201st Infantry Brigade at Canterbury, and in May 1918 the command of No. 7 District with headquarters at Oxford, which appointment he retained till his retirement with the rank of Brigadier-General in February 1920.

Such is a brief record of the life and services of General White. For thirty-two years he served entirely with one battalion or another of the Regiment, and whether as Adjutant, Company Commander or Commanding Officer his whole energies were devoted to his work and to maintaining the high standard expected of the Regiment.

Very successful in command of the 43rd under peace conditions in India, he was equally successful in the more difficult task of training an entirely new battalion at the outbreak of the War, in imbuing them with the spirit and traditions of the Regiment and in leading them in war. In France whether in the trenches or in an attack he studied every detail that might conduce to success, and everyone in the 6th Battalion was devoted to him and had the greatest confidence in his judgment. In the attack of the 20th Division at Guillemont on September 3, 1916, he and his battalion played a very important part and, though severe losses were suffered, the objective was reached. For his share in this action he was promoted full Colonel and, if his health had not failed, he would no doubt have been given command of a brigade in France.

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Brigadier-General E. D. White, C.M.G.

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He was three times mentioned in despatches and was later awarded the C.M.G. That the 6th Battalion did so well in every fight in which they were engaged may be largely attributed to his training. General White's principal recreation was shooting. He was an excellent shot with the rifle and when in India did much big game shooting. For many years he captained the regimental shooting meetings both with the rifle and revolver.

After retirement he did much local work in Berkshire and was County Director of the Red Cross Society. Unfortunately the strain of the War had left its mark on him and he was obliged to give up his work. For some years he struggled with ill health, sometimes better, sometimes not so well, but invariably cheerful and courageous. He died on August 18, 1929, and was buried in the churchyard of Mortimer West End in the presence of seven past and present commanding officers of the Regiment and of a large number of his father's former parishioners.

He will not be forgotten by those who served with him. We shall remember him as a fine soldier devoted to the Regiment with a great sense of duty, but at the same time a very kind heart.

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